

The WEEKLY

REPORT

ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 214.....5th June 1988. P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

Glancing at this week's newspaper cuttings sheet, it would appear initially that the independent (un-licensed) radio era in the Republic of Ireland is finished, with the switch-off expected any day. Whilst the Government's plans to do something about the situation, are well advanced, with various announcements and comments being made from time to time, it must also be pointed out that "The 'all new, colour, Irish' Star" is seeking new readers (to pay for all the many thousands of pounds pumped into it already) and what better than a bit of press sensationalism to sell a few (thousand?) extra copies. 'Veterans' in this line of radio business did not seem unduly alarmed, however, when we spoke to one or two recently.

WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday afternoon from Blackpool. The 20p news-sheet is available on subscription at the following weekly rates... posted **first class** in the U.K. and to all E.E.C. countries, including Eire, **40p...** posted **second class** (U.K. only), **35p...** posted at full rate to non-E.E.C. European countries (Sweden, Finland, Norway, etc.), **45p...** posted elsewhere, world-wide, **55p.** You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish at the above appropriate rate.

PAYMENTS for any items offered in WR or the current sales list, may be made by cash (any currency, but notes only), cheques and postal orders (U.K. and Irish) and bank drafts (payable to Anoraks U.K.), postage stamps (13p and 18p ones from within the U.K., 28p ones only, from Eire), Access and Postgiro/ National Girobank transfer (Account No. 12 141 6909 - R. & B.F. Johnston). The latter method is very often cheapest of all, with free transfers available in many cases. Please enquire at your local branch office.

ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT. For just £20.00 you can have a full page (£11 for ½ and £6 for ¼) and we will send it to 750 plus people, who are interested in radio. Simply send us a copy of the advert on white paper, plus the remittance, and leave the rest to us.

THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE will inform you of the latest news, just call Sheerness (0795) 511118 and hear a three minute (max.) message. News for us is best written in, to P.O. Box 539, but calls can be made on Blackpool (0253) 882017 or Sheerness (0795) 511119. The latter being an Ansa-phone service.

"COMMUNICATE '88" is coming. Stand by for further information on the north's first free radio convention on Saturday 24th September 1988, in Blackpool..... Coming soon.....

NEW MERCHANDISE. Offshore Echo's No. 71 arrived this week, and contains 64 pages of news, stories and features from the world of offshore radio. Of interest to most readers will be the photographs of the new 819kHz. mast. These pictures were taken when it was first erected, without any guying, and one shows the resulting cracks in the base. Also of special interest is an interview with Mark Wesley, a feature, 'Simon Dee : Part One', plus all the other regular features. Send us £1.90 today, and we will send you Europe's leading free radio magazine by return of post.

NEW ARRIVALS. Guess what? **Now Radio, Issue 59** arrived on time (next day), Thursday! The Post Office really did well here, as this is the first time it has arrived 'next day!' 24 x A5 pages of general radio news with the emphasis on the recent 'delayed' (U.K.) radio bill. Details from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants NN16 0NW..... **D.P.M. Newsletter, No. 22.** A super 12 page, A5 news-sheet, with about three pages of newspaper cuttings. Fields covered... German short wave, FM and offshore. Unfortunately, entirely in the German language. Details from Postfach 1130, D 4154 Tonisverst 1, West Germany..... **P.I.N. Magazine** (formerly Pirate Info News), **Issue 31.** The latest offering has 44 pages of news and information on radio in Europe, including offshore. A very well produced magazine, but unfortunately (for the British) totally in the German language. Full details by writing to PIN, Postfach 220342, 5600 Wuppertal 22, West Germany... **F.R.S. Goes DX, Issue 70.** Mainly short wave covered here, but the FM scene in Paris is featured also this time. All in English, details can be obtained from FRSH, Postbus 41 7700 AA Dedemsvaart, The Netherlands.

TAPE OFFERS. It's all abroad for this week's selections, starting off in Florida, and Tampa Bay in particular for Tape 205. This recent recording features the hit music station Q-105. It's out to the North Sea for Tape 206, and for those who couldn't hear it, a chance to listen to the Dutch test transmissions on 819kHz from last Monday, 30th May. The selection chosen features the final 45 minutes up until close-down at 18:00. This is very good quality and was recorded on the Essex coast. Finally this week, it's back to Europe, and a country which we hear very little about, Finland. This recording is not for the faint hearted, and features a heavy metal programme from Radio Decibeli. With a very fast deejay speaking in Finnish, and lots of jingles

and inserts, this makes an interesting listen, although it unfortunately only lasts for 60 minutes. As usual, all tapes cost £2.00 each.

GENERAL. An invitation to a wedding between a well known Irish station presenter (he comes from Scotland, actually!) and his bride to be in Munster, means that a slight disruption to Weekly Report publishing dates is likely to occur in August, as the complete A-UK team head for Co. Cork in Ireland. Of course, in addition to the wedding, which everyone is looking forward to, the chance to do a bit of radio station visiting presents itself. Stations operating between Waterford and Tralee are warned to expect a visit! At this stage, we are not exactly sure what we are going to do about WR, but a double issue has not been ruled out.

RADIO STATION NEWS : IRELAND.
Co. DUBLIN. Both leading stations are now sounding so alike, one has to wait for the ID's to confirm which is which! **Sunshine 101's** 'instant requests' can be heard on **Super Q 102 FM** as 'lightning requests', although the latter station had not fully streamlined the operation before trying it, resulting in there being many brief embarrassing moments, particularly early week. The cat? Boring Bill Cunningham spoken ID's end with a cat mewing. That means you are listening to Q, but what else it means still remains a mystery, although, all will be revealed soon, we are told. John Power was noted after 10:00 this week, in place of Jason Maine, although Jason did re-appear at the weekend, thankfully. Both station's formats are plastic. Is this what the listening public want? Let us know! Bill Cunningham's latest effort at Q is to last for three months, we believe, with lots of £££'s said to be in it for him, especially if he gets Q to number one in the city. We are told that during the 'countdown' from 1 to 5,500, which preceded the new format, many shops in the city switched over from Q to Sunshine. Many doubtless stayed there. Sunshine continue to plug their "Big Kahuna '88" promotion, in the meantime, but do slot in the odd 'dig at Q' jingle from time to time. Q had numerous digs at Sunshine from the start, though, in fairness to them. One jingle on Q mentions that they play 'the most music allowed by law!' That just about sums up the radio scene in the U.K. and Ireland. And we thought this was free radio! Maybe he was joking!

Elsewhere in Dublin now, and a spell of listening to **Radio Dublin** brought no surprises, not that we thought it would.

However, the deejays were at least being themselves, which is perhaps something unique now? Plenty of adverts were noted, mostly of a local nature, along with the old faithful jingles. We listened on 1188kHz., a reasonable signal during the day, but one that vanishes the instant dusk approaches. One thing we did note, the station identified as 'Music 105' on more than the odd occasion. Their FM outlet is, of course, 105.2MHz. and is reported to be a good signal locally, but suffers from a very annoying buzz at times. The station have apparently installed a new mixer, no doubt to try and better themselves and as part of the continuing effort to gain a bigger slice of the Dublin audience. Radio Dublin, 58 Inchicore Road, Kilmainham, Dublin 8...Tel. (01) 538684.

CAU-FM seem to have taken over Energy 103's old format. They now have the 'Listener's Top 10' at 17:00, plus various other things, originally first heard on Energy 103. They are also announcing themselves as 'Dublin's No.1'!

A quick run-down of Dublin FM stations, for the benefit of keen dx-ers, at this time of year.... 91.85 **Tallaght Community Radio**... 94.10 **CBC/ Radio Sandymount** (Festival station, closed 25th May)... 94.25 **Smile FM**... 94.90 **Southside 95**... 95.50 **Heartbeat FM**... 95.80 **Capitol/ Nitesky**... 96.40 **College Radio** (occasionally)... 97.50, 99.10 and 99.50, **Treble T.R. Radio**... 97.70 **Dublin South Comm. Radio**... 97.80 **Bray Local Broadcasting Comm. Radio**... 98.05 **Ranelagh Comm. Radio**... 98.50 **KLAS 98**... 98.80 **Pulsar 98** 99.90, 101.90, 102.30 and 103.00 **Super Q 102 FM**... 100.30, 100.70, 101.10 and 101.50 **Sunshine 101 FM**... 103.50 and 104.00 **Liberty 104**... 104.30 **CAU-FM**... 104.55 **Ballymun Community Broadcasting**... 105.20 **Radio Dublin**... 105.75 **North Dublin Community Radio**... 106.10 **Unid**.

Several reports from the city tell us that **Breffni Regional Radio** on 657kHz., from Kilnaleck in County Cavan are causing some problems to **BLB Community Radio** on the same channel, due to the rather excellent signal put out by Breffni. The interference is obviously worse in the south city area, although at least in this area, one can tune in to BLB's excellent signal on 97.8MHz.

Co. MONAGHAN. Further bandscans on Wednesday yielded rather a good signal on 927kHz., compared with previously. The latest in country stations from Monaghan Town identifies as **Radio Star Country** and announces FM 96.3 and 103.3MHz., in addition to the MW outlet. Some local adverts were noted, especially for the Swan Lake Hotel (the home of the station). Local and international news was noted on the top of the hour. The telephone number for requests was read out... (047) 82394. We understand the station has had some interference problems, as do most new operations. Further up the band, we stopped on 1116kHz., expecting to hear a similar signal from **Northern Star Radio**. We were very disappointed to hear a dreadful mess there, without doubt caused by **NSR**, which made both themselves and the **BBC** station on there, virtually inaudible. No doubt in the immediate listening area, the signal on 1116kHz. would be quite acceptable. **KITS FM** attempted an outside broadcast last Sunday, but experienced problems with the links. Initially, they thought they were being jammed. **KITS** can be heard on 837kHz.AM and 100.9MHz.FM. Over at **KISS FM**, they are planning an outside broadcast for tonight, Sunday 5th June, at the Four Seasons Hotel in Monaghan Town. Local bands will be appearing, but will not be heard on the air, however. The beer firm, Budweiser, are sponsoring the event, which introduces their product into that outlet. We are told that FM power was down somewhat, in the week, although the problem has now been sorted out, as has the problem of the hum on the medium wave transmissions. We hope to shortly be able to log the station 'live' once again, but in the meantime are assured that a very settled line-up continues and advertising continues to build up.

THE SOUTH WEST. A report from Ennis in Co. Clare tells us that **W.C.R.** from Abbeyfeale in Co. Limerick were having trouble all last weekend, with their main FM transmitter on 101.3MHz. At various times, it was off air, or on low power, or relaying RTE 2 TV, or badly distorted and relaying a combination of all three! Steve Phillips, who used to host the 954 Drive on Hits 954, has joined them and, apart from programming, he is heard on quite a number of advert voice-overs. **Coast Hot Hits** can be heard on 3 FM frequencies in Ennis, 102.9, 101.8 and 100.65MHz., the latter serving Limerick city. AM on 954kHz. was last heard mid May. In the city itself, **Radio Avalon** are now in stereo on 99.4MHz. **Radio Vera** have switched to 97.65MHz. and also have a relay on 103.6MHz., which spends more time

off air, than on. Apparently, they have always had a problem with relays, mainly due to the studio transmitter drifting slightly. Their sister station, **Radio Munster**, have, as a result, moved up to 95.7MHz. 28 William Street, where both broadcast from, is a mass of aerials, with Vera using a twin dipole stack and Munster, either a $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ wave dipole, both of which are on the same mast. Also, the original Munster aerial remains on the other side of the street (they used to feed the audio across to the transmitter there!). As a result, driving through William Street and listening to another station, is not very enjoyable. **The Sound Channel** bought Hits 954's FM processing gear and now sound very bright on 98.7MHz., but still not as bright as Hits used to be. Lots of rumours prevail as regards **John the Man's (Radio Luimni)** closure, but as yet, there is no actual date for this to happen. Our thanks to Paul for this report and best wishes to him on his extensive visit planned, to the United States.

Back to Dublin now and we have just found the missing 945kHz. signal from **Treble T.R. Radio**. They have turned up on the adjacent channel, 936kHz. They have been known to do this before, especially during the summer months, when the strong German station on 936kHz. is not as evident. Across at **Liberty 104**, Bill Cunningham has been heard guesting on 'The Ballad Programme' on Sunday morning at 11:00. Apparently this went out last Sunday, and a recording of the same was repeated today. Bill was talking about music from his home area of Nebraska, but was also questioned on his involvement with radio stations in Dublin, notably Sunshine and Q. He gave his account of how he returned to the city to Q 102 and not Sunshine. He said he was contacted by Q 102, who asked him to come across and do the same for them, as he had for Sunshine previously. He then rang Sunshine and asked if they wanted his services, and told them that Q had asked him to work for them. Sunshine apparently told him that they were not interested and the result is 'Super Q 102 FM'. He mentioned that he had some big and exciting promotions lined up for the coming months.

Finally, word reaches us about the latest developments regarding the new radio bill. Last week, we ended by stating that we were awaiting the outcome of a vote in the Dail, on the setting up of a committee to oversee the new radio and television stations. We were informed mid week that this bill was passed by a large majority. This is probably the nearest that any Government has been to actually bringing in a new radio bill and we await further developments on this matter. Whether the full legislation will get through before the summer recess, as was hoped by the communications minister, is doubtful.

SATELLITE BROADCASTING..RADIO NOVA INTERNATIONAL.

Following letters in, it appears that most readers would like us to cover this new mode of broadcasting, not only just sticking to Nova though, but by reporting on other S.L. operators. This we intend to do, but are currently experiencing severe problems from our local planning authority, as regards our satellite receiving apparatus. As a result, it is only possible for us to monitor Nova just at the moment, but we fully intend to cover the others, especially other British operators who start up.

Further 'star' names appeared this week, with David Hamilton now hosting Monday to Friday, from 23:00 until 00:00, as part of 'Nova Night Network'. David's very smooth style suits the mood for this time of the evening, and we feel sure ILR stations, on hearing him, will be clamouring for a chance to relay 'NNN'. Other 'new' names heard advertised, but not actually noted by ourselves, were Pat Sharp and Timmy Mallett. Sweatshirts, T-shirts and stickers are also on offer, along with a chance to join 'The Nova Club' for just £3.00.

OFFSHORE STATIONS....THE VOICE OF PEACE. Just a brief report this week telling us that the 15th birthday celebrations were well under way. The ship had planned to anchor in front of the Hilton Hotel, just off Tel Aviv, on Saturday 21st May. However, this was put off until the week after, and we now presume it has taken place. Sight seeing vessels were being encouraged to visit and circle the ship and beer was to be served from on board, both things usually frowned upon. John McDonald returned from shore leave on 25th May and at the moment, Steve Richards and Richard West are taking their break.

m.v. COMMUNICATOR. The ship is still aground on the mud bank at the Mistley scrap yard. Our most recent details are that there is a stalemate situation regarding the vessel, and it could well be stuck in the river for months!

*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*

VERONICA FM (YORKS.).

VHF EQUIPMENT FOR COMMUNITY RADIO.

10 WATT VHF TRANSMITTER.....£60.00
50 WATT VHF TRANSMITTER.....£130.00
STEREO ENCODER.....£80.00
AUDIO PROCESSOR/LEVEL CONTROL.....£60.00
5/8 GROUND PLANE AERIAL 3DB.....£40.00
1/4 GROUND PLANE AERIAL.....£30.00

"NEW" "NEW" "NEW" "NEW" "NEW" "NEW" "NEW" "NEW"

10 WATT TRANSMITTER WITH CRYSTAL P.L.L.....£150.00

"NEW" "NEW" "NEW" "NEW" "NEW" "NEW" "NEW" "NEW"

VERONICA FM (YORKS.),
HEIGHTS BUNGALOW,
HEIGHTS,
KILPIN HILL,
HECKMONDWYKE,
WEST YORKSHIRE,
WF16 ODE.

TELEPHONE: (0274) 816200 (PLEASE NOTE NEW NUMBER).

N.B. A LICENCE MAY BE REQUIRED TO OPERATE THIS
EQUIPMENT.

WANTED. Caroline tapes featuring Peter Philips, John Lewis and Tony Peters... write to Ken Vessey, Swallow Road, Thorganby, Grimsby, South Humberside DN37 0SZ.

WANTED. Tapes of Laser 558 and Laser 'Hot Hits' 576... please write to Bob Pearson, 98 Knightthorpe Road, Loughborough, Leics. LE11 0JU.

STILL WANTED. Good quality recordings of the old 'All Night Nova', or Q-102 / Energy 103 equivalents. Write with details to Bryan Roberts, 55 Mereheath park, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 6AS.

FOR SALE. AKG D222EB studio microphone as used by BBC/IBA stations. AKG list price £224.25. Brand new and boxed for just £95. Contact Neil on (0626) 63554 (between 17:30 and 19:30).

LAND-BASED STATIONS.

BRISTOL. **Radio F.T.P.** (103.6 - mono) have once again been alone this week, in fighting for free radio in this area. They have been noted operating long hours, though with an invariably good signal, with the only distortion seemingly being caused by poor quality tapes etc. At 18:00 on Thursday 26th May, 'Soulful D' announced the winners of the first competitions, to win tickets to see Billy Ocean, Aswad and other stars 'in concert'. One winner apparently came from Bath, so the signal must be getting out quite well. The following evening, Friday (27th), it was announced that the station would commence transmissions at 10:30 on Saturday morning. This they duly did, with the opening announcement welcoming everyone to their 'community radio station'. Radio F.T.P. continued well into Saturday evening, and were again active early on Sunday (29th) at 11:54. Problems with a tape recorder later in the day meant a shortened version of the 'Senior Citizen Hour'. Finally, new jingles and promotions on the station all mention 103.6MHz., suggesting that the station will remain on this slot. Thanks once again to Terry for his detailed monitorings this week.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. **N.B.C.** continue to operate to the city on 102.2MHz. They were monitored last Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings with much improved signal quality, and more professional presentation. The signal seems to suggest it comes from the east of the city, but the power must be quite low, as drop-outs in coverage are noted everywhere.

YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE & DERBYSHIRE. We start this week in South Yorkshire, with **Ocean Sound** (106.3) whom we missed out last time, and who were broadcasting in stereo. The station was on the air with a live programme from 12:00 on Saturday afternoon, 28th May. An outside broadcast was being announced, with one of the station's staff, linking into the studio and talking to the on-air deejay. A Rotherham telephone number was being announced, which appeared to be something to do with the Telethon Appeal which occurred on ITV last weekend. The news from IRN was relayed on the hour to give the station a 'community' feel. **Rebel Radio** (105.4) was active on both Monday (30th) and Tuesday (31st), from around 20:00. Station operator 'Scooter Jones' announced on both nights that he would be increasing power in the near future. There didn't appear to be any problems from Village Radio this week. That station has been operating each night recently, on a frequency quite close to that of Rebel Radio.

In and around Leeds it was a busy Bank Holiday weekend. The proposed new station on 105.8MHz. did not appear, and this meant that **Radio Radar** managed to put out a successful broadcast between 10:00 and 22:00 on Monday (30th). Their signal was very good and covered a radius in excess of 20 miles without any problems, and this was accompanied by excellent stereo audio. It was also mentioned on the station that there was a total of six stations on the air over the weekend. These included **Music City Radio** (90.3), **Peoples FM** (91.8), and **ABC FM** (105.2), all of whom were putting out very good signals, and fairly lengthy transmissions. Just out of the area, **Thunder Radio** (104.8) made their regular Sunday evening transmission from 20:00 until late. A new station was also mentioned to have been on the air calling itself **Vision Radio** and this also broadcast around 104.8MHz. This was thought to have been a 'one off' broadcast for the Bank Holiday, and was from a similar area to Thunder Radio.

The unidentified station mentioned last week on 104.9MHz., which appeared on Sunday night was believed to be **NLV Radio** from Keighley. They appeared with some tests on Sunday evening (29th) and then came on the air on Monday with full programmes for the Bank Holiday. In an interview

in the local newspaper, presenter Stevie B stated that they now had a complicated studio and transmitter arrangement, which because of a loophole in the law, meant they believed they could not be touched. This new system was apparently causing a few problems, which caused the station to be off the air both on Monday (30th) and Tuesday (31st) afternoons. They have not been heard since.

Across in Hull, a letter from **Radio Takoradi** this week stated that although promised, the station had yet to recommence broadcasts. However, as stated in previous reports, they hope to be on the air within a couple of week, on 105.0MHz., hopefully with both Saturday and Sunday programming.

In Derbyshire, **North Midlands Radio (N.M.R.)** were transmitting during the Bank Holiday weekend, on 105.5MHz. Sunday 29th May, saw them on the air at 20:25, although a carrier had been noted earlier. Tests were heard until 20:40 when Steve St. John opened up the station and programmed through until 22:40. An advert was heard for a 'Free Radio Monitoring Service of Nottingham'. **N.M.R.** were again on the air on Monday 30th May between 17:50 and 19:45, when it was mentioned that this was just a special Bank Holiday broadcast, and not the start of regular Monday broadcasts. A few technical problems were noted that day, as the transmitter kept cutting out for a few seconds at a time.

NOTTINGHAM. **Heatwave Community Radio** (105.1) are still heard regularly with a good signal, and operating seven days per week. Not only does their signal cover a wide area, but their adverts are also understood to reflect this, and include an advert for a club in Derby.

MANCHESTER. There was plenty of activity in this area also, over Bank Holiday weekend. **Sunshine Radio** (92.1) made a test transmission on the Sunday afternoon to the Tameside area. At the same time, **F.A.B. FM** were also on the air on 97.0MHz. They were reported to have been putting out a good signal on the Stockport side of Manchester. **The Illegal Broadcasting Company** (104.4) were heard with a low power transmission also, and were heard for a short time, putting out a rock programme, which is unusual for this station, which normally concentrates on dance and hip-hop music. **Laser 10-35** were the only regular station to be heard over the past week, on a frequency around 103.6MHz. The audio on this station is reported to be a little poor at times, due to being distorted, especially on bass heavy reggae tracks. On a trip past the city last Sunday however, we were listening in the car, and the audio at that time was quite pleasant. The other black community station **WBLS** who normally operate on 102.3MHz., have been off the air for over a week now, but were understood to be back on as of Friday 3rd June, on their regular channel.

LONDON. Before we review this week's happenings in the city, we refer back to last week, when we mentioned a newspaper editorial which followed a recent amusing incident in the House of Commons. Below is reprinted the said piece, which came from the Yorkshire Evening Post. Perhaps even the press are now beginning to twig that the authorities have little knowledge about the broadcasting industry.

Hurd's snorter

AN ABSOLUTE snorter emerged last week as Dougie Hurd, our bold Home Secretary, buckled in the face of the Boss's lectures on on-screen naughties and set up the Broadcasting Standards Council while revealing his complete ignorance about TV. I'll bet he, like the Boss, never watches the darn thing.

Explaining the Rubric of this toothless travesty, the Home Secretary was challenged by Warrington Tory Chris Butler, who asked: "My Right Hon Friend, maybe aware that there is one channel that broadcasts several hours of pornography every day. Will the new council correct that and, if so, over what period?"

Dougie rose, apparently perplexed, and mused: "I am not quite sure — is my Hon Friend referring to Channel Four?"

As the House fell around him, Labour MPs demanding oxygen to save them from choking with laughter, Dougie, reassured that the concern was cable TV, explained sheepishly: "Some of my Hon Friends have extreme views about Channel Four."

Moral — If you want to know about broadcasting, don't ask a Tory Minister ...

LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

27th - 31st May 1988.

This weekend touched down on 36 stations, 9 of which were heard in stereo.

Missing / not heard :- London Rock : Faze 1 : Playback: Stomp FM : Hits FM (old and new!) : LIC-R.

A number of hits must have been sustained by the privateers during the week, as some stations were not heard at the normal times. Amongst those believed to have been hit by the DoTI men are **WLIB** (back Sunday night), **'The Arab'** (back overnight Sunday, then gone again), **Sky** (back Saturday, briefly, in stereo), **Traffic Jam** (back Saturday) and **WNK** (Saturday). Also back from busts the previous week were **TKO** (102.45 stereo, sounding sweet), **City** (back Saturday but only in mono) and **Studio FM** (92.65 - early Saturday, with a signal that gradually improved over the weekend). **Classic Radio** (105.5) have finally sorted out their transmitter ownership problems, and have made it back for the first time since the beginning of April, with a full 7 day / 24 hour schedule.

Last week's remarks that stereo was a dead duck were somewhat premature. Both Harlesden's **Time Radio** (103.8 - stereo), and Peckham's **Sky Radio** (91.7) flashed back into stereo. Time switched on for Friday, while Sky switched on later that night after several days off air. Sky switched off the encoder the following day. Also making it in stereo for the first time were Brixton's **Passion Radio** (90.7) who went stereo as near neighbours Sky returned to mono. Maybe they are sharing the encoder. Passion, also, only remained in stereo for a little over 24 hours, before doing a Phil Spector (back to mono).

A number of stations, including **Rock-to-Rock** (90.35) and **JBC** (104.3 - stereo) carry religious programmes, but Deptford weekenders **Groove** (89.7) have by far the oddest. Just before 6 am Saturday could be heard a sermon delivered in rhyme! **GWR** reach far beyond their normal SE London service area, when 'The Arab' (89.7'ish) is off, as it was for most of the weekend. It's to be hoped that this doesn't make them greedy, and get them involved in power wars. 'The Arab's' absence of band splash from 88.4 to 89.95 meant that a weak signal of funk and soul was heard on 89.55, several times over the weekend, although no ID was caught. Another so far unidentified low power signal of funk and soul was heard briefly in central London on 105.95 on Monday evening, and the impression received was of them having been on for more than one previous occasion. 'The Arab's' return was heralded by a noisy carrier wave, which knocked out GWR on Sunday. Programming was heard early on Monday, with a less than powerhouse mono signal, which had gone away by Monday evening. Heavy interference also badly affected both **JBC** (104.3 - stereo) and knocked out **Greek Community Radio** (104.45) on Sunday evening, but had gone by the following morning. Could this interference be associated with the return of SW London old timers **Border Radio** as reported by Terry in WR211?

Funksters **Solar 93** (93.0 - stereo) were set fine for the weekend, when they fell into a discordant howl just after 8pm, Saturday evening. It was all sorted out by the following day, but by the early hours of Bank Holiday Monday, they started running short of presenters and/or pre-recorded material. At 5am they re-ran Lee Randell's Street Corner Symphony for 50's doo-wop fans, which normally goes out on a Tuesday evening (when they last that long. Two slots up, and **CD-93** (93.2 - stereo) had one of their occasional Saturday outings, and were suffering from a slight mid-frequency buzz, but this may have been caused by splashover from Solar's howling. Earlier, a breathless Barry Stone had remarked about having to feed the studio cats, whose need for food was becoming intrusive. **Starpoint** (93.25 - stereo) followed after CD-93 on Sunday and Monday with a strong clean signal which covered much more than London. Starpoint are using a lengthy 'tune-up' tape at the beginning of their transmissions on Sundays, which consists of cut-ups, mixing, scratching and vari-speed recording.

Several times an hour, **Sina Radio International** (90.95), Southall's leading Asian rocker, are carrying many dual language ads, in chunks lasting four or five minutes at a time. This would seem to cast doubt on their claimed poor financial state, which led to appeals for funds to replace tx's lifted by the DoTI men. (WR 212). SRI are very well organised, (they even have two custom phone numbers) and it may well have been an exercise in PR and consciousness raising, rather than the real need for money. However,

they do have a unique sound of their own. The current announcers, although sounding silky smooth and melifluous, also sound as though they are coming down the 'phone. South London's **Brittania Radio** (95.35) manage to to sound absolutely normal.

With London Rock a no-show on Saturday, there was a clear division between the Asian tape loop (88.7 - Saturday only) and east London weekender **Sunrise** (88.85) who extended beyond their normal Sunday evening closedown to cover Bank Holiday Monday as well. Keeping to normal times were Croydon weekenders **Fame FM** (94.6), who have now added the 'Community Station' tag to their name. They have already started giving out the usual help line numbers, but it is hoped they don't go the way that Brixton 7 dayer **Passion Radio** are going, whose help line information was endlessly given over the reggae chart show on Sunday night, obliterating any chance of hearing what was actually being played. Why does so much community news consist of endless 'Help Line' 'phone numbers, for alkies, dopers and sexual degenerates? Are these the only people who need help, or are they the only people who listen to these stations? East London's low power **WLIB** (90.9) have gone one step further, and set up their own accomodation help line for the area. WLIB is lost to all those in need of room outside of east London for most of the day, as they are swamped by Southall's **SRI** (90.95).

On two separte occasions on Bank Holiday Monday, Aswad the 14 year veteran reggae rockers from Harlesden, paid tribute to the way London's Privateers had altered the overall awareness of people to black music. Thus opening up the charts to the many forms of black music which are now represented there. They spoke briefly on BBC 2's 'Def II' and at much greater length on BBC Big L's 'Black Londoners', where they also paid tribute to Big L's policy of black music. BBC Radio London changes format in mid-June when it moves away from its soul and funk orientation to a more mainstream course. Big L, (they actually do use a lot of the old 60's Radio London jingles), by the BBC's own admission, has the highest penetration in the youth and black market, of any station in the country. It has also been the only dedicated legal 'Black Music' (or Urban Contemporary) station in the country. This move just abandons an entire audience to the 'Privateers' and is akin to the banning of rock n'roll from many American stations in the 50's.

ACTIVITY Magazine

The June issue of ACTIVITY MAGAZINE is now available!!! Inside its pages you will find a very comprehensive review of SW activity with station reports for the month of May. ACTIVITY also includes a look at some of the stations on VHF and MW around the country as well. Can you afford to miss the latest in our popular series 'Pirates of the Past'? This time, Radio Apollo's Dave Scott remembers SW stations of years gone by. You'll find a lot more besides on free radio in the June issue of ACTIVITY MAGAZINE.

For your copy, simply send one pound to the address below. This can be a one pound coin taped to a card or you can make a cheque or postal order payable to P.S. Willsher.

Finally a few notes, both Issues 1 and 2 (April and May) are still available, again one pound each. Also, we welcome SW stations to write in with their latest events for publication.

Activity,
3 Greenway,
Harold Park,
Romford,
Essex,
RM3 0HH.

Bank Holiday Sunday saw some medium wave activity on 1566kHz. The signal was picked up in Surrey, and although it was not actually identified, was thought to be **Radio Neptune** from Hertfordshire. Another station received in

Surrey, although not actually a 'pirate' was Orpington Hospital Radio, who were broadcasting on 1413kHz. They have one of the 'special licenses' for a 50 milliwatt transmitter, but with the aid of a loop could be heard some 20 miles away. **MERSEYSIDE.** North Coast Radio (1350kHz.) did not appear at all last weekend, as far as we could tell. We thought that they might have appeared on Bank Holiday Monday, but this was not the case. Perhaps they had technical problems. The two regulars, **Radio Merseywaves** (1242) and **Radio Atlantis** (1197), were however, logged as normal on the Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday. Continuing problems with FM aerials prevented us from receiving the two regular Merseyside FM stations, **Veronica 104** (104.75) and **Radio Julie** (104.85), however, both were on the air as normal. Veronica were monitored at their regular Sunday afternoon time of 15:00. Further reports tell us that **Concept Radio** on 104.3MHz., were heard last Sunday evening. The next station logged, was RMW on Thursday morning, with a surprisingly poor signal here. It was noted off air at times, but did return each time. On Friday, however, it was a different story, with the station being heard loud and clear with some very good programmes from quite early on in the morning. Some mention was made of maintenance resulting in a better signal. Also on air Friday, was Radio Atlantis, again, with just Rick Dane running the show. Good programming and many adverts were noted. To celebrate their third anniversary, **Radio Veronica 104** (104.75) appeared at 09:00 on Friday morning and ran until quite late. They did the same yesterday and are currently on air as this is written (Sunday lunchtime). **Radio Julie** (104.8) re-appeared on Saturday night, at about 20:00, mentioning problems, but giving out a full schedule suggesting they were back to normal. We understand they are on air today, as are RMW, RV and RA.

RENFREWSHIRE. Plenty of action is currently occurring in this area. **Radio Mercury** (96.1) is back on the air and has been monitored so far on Friday and Saturday evenings. **Northside Community Radio** (103.25) are also still operating and have extended their Wednesday night 9-11pm to also include a Sunday evening at the same time. **Neon Radio** (103.9) made their final broadcast last Sunday between 13:00 and 15:00. This station has been replaced by two new operations. One is called **M.M.R. (More Music Radio)** and was on the air this morning on 103.9MHz., closing down at 12:00. They are announcing that they hope to operate 6 to 8 hours per day, 7 days per week. The format is to be 'more music, less chat', with three records being played between links. The other station is also currently on 103.9MHz., and called **C.V.R. (Clyde Valley Radio)**, and were heard on Wednesday evening at around 21:00. Although currently both on the same channel, one of the stations is expected to move to another frequency. The address for both stations is c/o Ardgowan Hotel, Lonend, Paisley.

m.v. ROSS REVENGE. We left 819kHz. off the air last Sunday (29th) after it had cut off on the Saturday evening, whilst it was relaying **Radio Caroline**. No more transmissions were noted on this frequency until Monday morning, when it is believed that the transmitter was switched on at around 09:00. Certainly there was nothing on at 08:45, but by 09:15, modulations were noted. In fact, this turned out not to be a relay of 558kHz., but instead it was the first of the long awaited Dutch language test transmissions. These carried on throughout the day until 18:00. Unfortunately we cannot hear the service at all here in Blackpool, due to two Irish stations on the same channel (Q-102 & Cavan Community Radio), who are both quite strong. As a result we thank all those who helped us compile this section of the report, with their loggings and comments. Just Ad Roberts and Erwin van der Blik hosted these test transmissions as far as we could tell. Ad was heard in the morning, and Erwin during the afternoon. It was interesting to note, that although they were announcing test transmissions, plenty of commercials were put on the air including ones for Atari Computers, L.P.'s and other items. The actual title of the tests seems to be **819 RM** or something similar. The only mention of Monique, is reported to have been in a promotion for a Monique Roadshow. As well as the two 'live' deejays, there were a few taped announcements about the station, which unfortunately we have yet to have had translated, although they were 'official' sounding. An address was read out, which was a post box number in Playa de Aro, and the name to put on the envelope was simply '819'. As yet we do not have the full address. It is interesting to note that this address is similar to the old Mi Amigo one in the 1970's.

A different 'theme tune' to Radio Monique is being used. The Dutch always seem to choose exciting tunes for their stations, and this new one is no exception, and was played on the hour, every hour. (Does anyone know the title and artist?) Tuesday morning (31st May) saw the tests once again in operation, although the transmissions ceased early on, sometime between 08:45 and 09:30, and were not heard for the rest of the day. Nothing was heard since Tuesday.

Across on 558kHz., **Radio Caroline** seems to be going from strength to strength. The loss of Erwin to the Dutch service has meant a shuffle around in the schedule and the dropping of the 24 hour schedule. Through the night broadcasting was continued over the weekend, with Mike Watts hosting early on Sunday morning (29th May) from 01:00 until 05:00. On the Bank Holiday it was slightly different to the rest of the week, but from Tuesday onwards we had the following line-up... 05:00 Keith Francis... 09:00 Rob Harrison... 13:00 Dave Asher... 16:00 Steve Masters... 20:00 'North Sea Gold'... 21:00 Mike Williams... 01:00. The one hour slot at 20:00, has now been filled with a new specialist programme called 'North Sea Gold'. As the title suggests, all the records played are oldies, and these are linked by a few of the older jingles. The music is non-stop, except for the on-hour announcement, and the half hour weather forecast which were read by Steve Conway on Tuesday, Keith Francis on Wednesday, and Erwin van der Blik on Thursday and Friday. The programme will operate from Monday to Friday only. Already it has gained a lot of listeners judging by the comments we have heard from correspondents, in just a few days, so it's 'thumbs up' to whoever decided to put that show on the air. In fact we checked it from day one and found it excellent (at least for us ageing hippies!)

News continues to be compiled and read by Steve Conway, with only the odd exception. A new promotion for an up and coming 'rock and blues' festival at Mildenhall for 9th July, has been widely aired this week, along with others for various musical selections to be heard on 558kHz.

SHORTWAVE STATIONS.

Additions and amendments to last week's log for Sunday 29th May from Stuart in Staffordshire, Neil in the West Midlands, South Surrey Monitoring and Podney in Cornwall....

6321kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 09:04gmt.
6321kHz...RADIO MIRAGE INT., at 11:30gmt.
7289kHz...RADIO MIRAGE INT., at 09:45gmt.

Activity on Bank Holiday Monday seemed rather quiet on the SW front, although we took the day off completely, so we cannot really comment ourselves. Maybe others did the same?

Log For Monday 30th May 1988.

6215kHz...WORLD MISSION RADIO, at 12:25gmt.
6265kHz...E.M.R., at 09:51gmt.
6300kHz...RADIO ORION, at 12:32gmt.
6910kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 12:45gmt.

Log For Sunday 5th June 1988.

6200kHz...RADIO ATLANTIS, at 09:55gmt.
6215kHz...WORLD MISSION RADIO, at 08:37gmt.
6230kHz...RADIO GEMINI, at 10:50gmt.
6230kHz...W.L.R., at 11:43gmt.
6256kHz...UNID., at 09:45gmt.
6265kHz...E.M.R., at 09:51gmt.
6280kHz...4IFR, at 09:05gmt.
6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 09:34gmt.
6295kHz...STARFLEET RADIO INT., at 08:21gmt.
6300kHz...RADIO ORION, at 10:50gmt.
6305kHz...RIVERSIDE RADIO INT., at 08:47gmt.
6310kHz...RADIO EAST COAST COMM., at 10:00gmt.
6815kHz...RADIO EAST COAST COMM., at 11:52gmt.
6820kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 08:21gmt.
6910kHz...RADIO DUBLIN INT., at 08:37gmt.
7375kHz...RADIO D.J., at 08:50gmt.
7375kHz...RADIO LIMIT INT., at 09:30gmt.
7385kHz...W.F.R.L., at 09:14gmt.
7446kHz...W.L.R., at 08:19gmt.
7290kHz...RADIO STELLA INT., at 09:13gmt.

Conditions here were a little up and down, with virtually nothing being audible on the 48mb. Many thanks to Andy in Hull, Radiotelex and Neil West for today's telephone logs. Stations in bold were heard here in Blackpool.

The unidentified on 6256kHz. was using a 'BM' address and sounded like Red Capitol Radio! The transmissions on 7490kHz. was announced by Gary St. John as tests.

The WEEKLY

REPORT

ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 215....12th June 1988.

P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

IRISH FREE RADIO - IS THIS THE END? As many readers will have already heard, the big news this week comes from the Irish Republic. We left the situation last week, with the Dail having passed a bill to set up a commission to oversee the operating of the proposed new commercial and community radio stations. This week we have to report unfortunately (as far as listeners choice is concerned), that the actual broadcasting legislation was debated, voted upon and passed on Wednesday 8th June 1988. It now apparently only has to be passed to the Senate for approval. The news first came to us via a news broadcast that evening, and ironically, the item we have transcribed from the 06:30 RTE news the following morning, was read by ex-Radio Nova newsreader Ken Hammond. It read: "The Minister for Communications has told the Dail that it is intended that the new independent radio services will be in operation by early next year. Speaking at the end of the debate on legislation setting up the new services, and outlawing illegal broadcasting, Mr. Burke said the passing of this legislation to regulate the airwaves, would mean anyone involved, in any way, in pirate broadcasting would face fines of between £800 and £20,000. And he said, that aspect of the bill would become effective from the end of the year." We understand that in addition to the increased fines, there is also a possibility that conviction could bring up to a 2 year prison sentence. Without actually seeing the bill, we are unsure as to what the phrase 'anyone involved in illegal broadcasting' means. Will it just be the operator of the station, or anyone supplying goods to or advertising on the un-licensed stations. We hope to find out more details shortly. The increase in fines from £50, up to £20,000 is certainly enough to put everyone but the most hardened broadcaster off continuing without a licence. The new fines come into force on 31st December 1988, but whether this will affect the Christmas advertising logs is uncertain. The consequences of the closure of the unlicensed stations will be most felt in the Dublin area, where only two new stations are proposed. This will probably mean that the wide selection of music formats available to the Dublin listener for the past 10 years, will now unfortunately disappear. The likes of Capitol / Nitesky (rock + album tracks), TTTR (country), KLAS (sweet music), ICBS (religious), Heartbeat (love songs), Bray Local Broadcasting (community radio for Bray), in addition to the other pop channels made a good selection to choose from. The changes in Irish broadcasting that the 'unlicensed' stations brought over the past ten years can never be underestimated. Right from the time when Radio Dublin went from a 'hobby' operation to a full 7 day schedule in 1977/8, the state broadcasting network has had to watch the 'pirates' very carefully. At that time, there was only RTE 1 and Radio Na Gaeltachta (Irish language) on the air, with only a few hours of pop music. (This was very similar to the early 60's in England, when Radio Caroline first began its broadcasts, with its only competition being the BBC Light Programme). Within two years of the threat from Radio Dublin, The Big D, A.R.D., Capitol Radio and others, RTE started a pop channel of its own and, as in the U.K., it was the 'pirates' who had finally forced the state network to give the people what they wanted to hear. In both England and Eire, FM was virtually unheard of in 1978. But by 1988, following the success of Radio Nova's FM transmissions in the early 80's (which were originally laughed at by others), and the subsequent filling of this band for quality broadcasting by other operations, the situation has occurred that in Dublin, the majority of people now listen to FM - this can be entirely attributed to the 'pirates'. Most recently, RTE Radio 2 has gone 24 hours per day - the 'pirates' have been doing this for almost 10 years! The 'pirates' were also a good place of training for prospective presenters and newsreaders, many of whom have now been acquired by official stations in both the Eire and the U.K. Finally, the 'Irish pirates' have also made an impression on the broadcasting network in the U.K. Many of the current ideas on ILR were copied, after being first heard coming out of Dublin. 'Clutter-free', the American syndicated shows etc. were all heard in Ireland before being adopted in the U.K. The use of Optimods and other audio processing, which were frowned upon by the BBC and IBA, have now become the norm since the start of Radio Nova. So whenever the authorities, in any country, come up with the excuses that 'pirates' cause interference, steal music and use illegal frequencies - they can be told quite firmly that if it wasn't for the 'pirates' whose operators are true radio enthusiasts and bring in modern innovations, then broadcasting would be in a real archaic mess! Deejays are probably going to be the only ones to come out of the legislation better off. Although there will be fewer jobs, they are more likely to now get paid under a licensing situation.

WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday afternoon, from Blackpool. The 20p news-sheet is available on subscription... First Class/EEC countries (inc. Eire), 40p... Second Class (U.K.), 35p... Non-EEC European (Sweden, Finland, Norway, etc.), 45p... Elsewhere (Air Mail), 55p... You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish.

ADVERTISEMENTS IN WEEKLY REPORT cost £20.00 for a full page, £11.00 for a half and £6.00 for a quarter. All we need is a good quality (white paper) copy and the remittance.

THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO-LINE will up-date you on the news.... call Sheerness (0795) 511118 now and hear a three minute message. It is better to write to us with your news, but calls may also be made to Blackpool (0253) 882017 or left on our Ansa-phone on Sheerness (0795) 511119.

"COMMUNICATE '88" is the north's first free radio convention. A hand-out/ flyer is currently at the printers and should be with you very shortly. Full details, along with a booking form will be included. The date?... Saturday 24th September 1988. The place?... Blackpool. The time?... 11:00 till 23:00. Anyone planning to stay over, in the town, should ring this number now and enquire about accomodation..... (0253) 21891. For the benefit of 'stayers', the local newspaper produces a seasonal 'Holiday Magazine' which tells you just about everything you would ever want to know about the town, from entertainment downwards. This extensive publication costs 65p and with postage and packing, this becomes £1. We have ample stocks of this publication for sale, "Holiday Magazine '88", send for your copy now and learn a bit about the town, beforehand.

NEW MERCHANDISE. Following a recent trip by a colleague, to the Ross Revenge in mid-May, we are now able to offer... six Jumbo colour prints, entitled "Ross Revenge - May '88". All six shots were taken from the visiting vessel, closely circling the ship. 1. Superb close-up of the anchor chain. 2. Mid-ships, showing the meagre remains of the late 300 foot tower. 3. Still mid-ships, showing the various feeders and the external insulator. 4. The back deck with the new mast and a lifebelt prominent. 5. The rear mast, showing the top and part of the array. 6. Pulling away, and a superb silhouette shot of the entire ship, showing the aerials in great detail. This excellent set is a must for all collectors and fans of the station. The cost is £3.00.

NEW ARRIVALS. **Play-DX, Issue 509.** The weekly read from Italy has six x A4 sides of long distance logs and general associated news. Printed partly in Spanish, English and Italian, more details can be had from Dario Monferini, via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy..... **Now Radio, Issue 60** covers the radio scene, right across the board, in its 24 x A5 pages. Details here, from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... **Radiotelex, Issue 126** is the final issue from it's present editor, Mario Lange. Mario is off to university shortly and we wish him well with his studies and thank him for providing us with such a good service over the past year. The magazine, now better than ever for all SW enthusiasts, continues just the same, with

former editor, Bjorn Quaack, taking over, along with his team in Duisburg. Co-operation between RT and WR will continue as before, but all subscribers should please note that the address is now... RT, Duempter Strasse 6, 4100 Duisburg 12, West Germany.

TAPE OFFERS. A nice selection of recordings is on offer this week, mainly thanks to Dave who visited the southern hemisphere and brought back some interesting items. We start off with Tape 208, on which we visit Singapore, and a chance to hear the English speaking station SBC 1. This features two 45 minute sections from Sunday morning 1st May. The station is broadcast in FM stereo, has plenty of adverts, with a pop/ MOR format... Tape 209 takes us to Melbourne where we feature on one side, the city's No. 1 commercial station, **3-FOX-FM**, with a breakfast show and lots of talk and on the other, **3-EON-FM**, the No.2 station, and again a breakfast show with a bit more top 40 music... Over to the States for Tape 210 and in North Dakota, we find **KQWB 98.7 ('Q 98')**. Heavy metal/ rock music here, with lots of Led Zep and Judas Priest, including an interview with the latter, in this late night show. All tapes this week are recorded in May '88, C.90 in length and all FM stereo. The cost of course, £2.00. As we perfect our satellite receiving apparatus, we can now offer **Radio Nova Int. S.L.** tapes in stereo. Please request the D.J. of your choice, or 'a recent recording'. The cost is, again, just £2.00 each.

FOR SALE. Strumech Versatower, the 60' model. Stands on a base unit with suitable foundations, or can be wall mounted if necessary. The former method being most suitable as it allows the mast to tilt to the horizontal for aerial maintenance. Minimum height, 30', maximum, 60'. Both hand operated winches. Wonderful condition.... to view, call and see us in Blackpool, or take a trip out to the Ross Revenge, where they have the 80' model on the back deck (see this week's photo-set offer). Interested parties should check with their local planning authority initially. We will deliver if necessary.

WANTED. Mono or stereo mixer with PFL/ cue and at least five channels. Write with details and your price to R.T.R. P.O. Box 140, Ashford, Kent

TOP FLIGHT DJ / PRESENTER seeks position in Irish commercial radio. Many years experience in BBC Local, Irish commercial and offshore radio. Anything considered. Telephone 0533 351243 with details.

WANTED. 'Hotel California', the live version by the Eagles, also, 'Watts Stax', live double album, disc or tape in either case, also 10/ 11 metre TX A.T.U. (for open feeder), up to 100 watt handling.... Contact "GY24", P.O. Box 60 Grimsby, DN34 4JW.

WANTED. Broadcast quality recordings of the Energy 103 jingle package, also some car stickers... contact Simon West, 184 Pixmore Way, Letchworth, Herts SG6 1QT.

GENERAL. Latest news on our aerial problems... the satellite dish... almost at perfection level. The FM antenna, almost back in action. AM antennae, nearly back to normal. We did promise to review a SW antenna called a 'Royal Blue', but our recent problems have caused us to shelve this.

Doug in Leicester recently obtained an old Bush TR130 wireless and was surprised to see that Radio Caroline was marked on the dial. Many sets produced in the '60's had offshore stations marked on the dial. Also, he enquires about 'the BS waveband'. BS stands for band-spread and simply spreads out the part of the MW band containing such stations as Caroline, Luxembourg, etc., allowing fine tuning of your favourite station.

RADIO STATION NEWS... IRELAND.

Co. DUBLIN. The competition between **Sunshine FM** and **Super Q** becomes hotter as the days progress and the style adopted seems to us, to be rather unprofessional, although we must add that both stations are at the top when it comes to the professional league. They stoop to a new low with each fresh promo. For the benefit of people not in the know, this is what it is all about.... Sunshine secured the services of the successful American programme director, Bill Cunningham, some time ago (about 18 months). Despite his radical changes to the station, not always favoured in many quarters, his unique style got Sunshine Hot Hits to the top of the radio league in Dublin. His contract with the station expired, and he, no doubt financially very much better off, returned to the States. Q in the meantime, despite great successes in the city, still could not topple Sunshine from the No.1 spot, and recently approached the said gentleman, asking him to do the same for them. In

fairness, he contacted Sunshine and told them of the latest offer and offered them his services again (without doubt for further great financial rewards). Sunshine, naturally, declined, as the job they had engaged him for previously had been done, and most successfully too. Q thus engaged this in demand PD. The following is where it is all going wrong.... Like or dislike the man, the changes he makes are radical, different and dramatic, and they make you pay attention and listen to what he has to offer. That's good, but to take such financial reward off someone, in this case, Sunshine, then return and do exactly the same with the rival is beyond belief. By all means return and work for the rival, but to do the same thing, well.... We mentioned this a week or so ago, 'lightning requests', these were 'instant requests' on Sunshine.... this week, promo for 'The Bop Shop' (stating that it beats Be-Bop Gold) from 09:00 till 15:00 each Sunday, this, of course, was 'Be-Bop Gold' on Sunshine (even the times are the same!).... a promo accusing Sunshine of being semi-automated, whereas they are very much live!.... a promo accusing Sunshine of playing old tapes of his voice!.... plus many more, and so the story goes on. All jingles are spoken, as they were on Sunshine (just the ID is different), with the emphasis on the FM bit. Of course, Sunshine immediately fell into the trap of retaliating (on the air, of course, with more of their own spoken jingles). What is yet to come? More of the same, plus giveaways? We'll just have to wait and see, there is still more than a couple of months to go yet, before his contract expires! At a very crucial time, as regards getting a licence, one would have thought the two main stations might have got together to ensure that the two licences for Dublin city, rightly went to Sunshine and Q. Instead, it would not be at all surprising if neither got one now. Whatever does Nova's Chris Cary think about all this. It is just a pity the Dubliners have not got that other choice any longer, in fact, the way things are going, they are going to have considerably less choice very soon. Robbie Dale has already announced that he will close down Sunshine Radio at 23:59 on 31st December 1988, if he does not obtain a licence. Q 102, probably coincidentally, have disappeared from 819kHz. They have not been heard since daytime Saturday, but of course, it could be technical problems. As a result, **Cavan Community Radio** can be heard with an excellent signal, here in Blackpool. **Co. WICKLOW.** A station we rarely mention is **B.L.B. (Bray Local Broadcasting) Community Radio**, on 657kHz.AM and 97.8MHz.FM. Apparently, according to Q 102's Gareth O'Callaghan, one of their presenters, Nick Owen, is set to make the Guinness book of records, for successfully deejaying on the air, non-stop for 110½ hours, recently. We are unable to log this station, as both AM and FM signals are just about inaudible hear, due to **Breifni Regional Radio** on 657kHz. and **Erneside Community Radio** on 97.8MHz., who both overpower the Bray signal, almost completely.

Co. DONEGAL. Word from **WABC** tells us that the station has moved from their headquarters in Garvagh and that their new address is now... The Lodge, The Manor House, Greencastle, Co. Donegal, where their new studios are located. They have also introduced new transmitters for Derry City, on 100.8MHz. and Moville and the Donegal coast, on 99.8MHz., all in stereo. MW and SW transmitters, both currently off air, await new valves. These are on order and on arrival will ensure that both transmitters be heard once more.

Co. LIMERICK. It is reported that **Breifni Regional Radio** are testing transmitters in the city area. Loop tapes are reported operating, but no frequencies are known at this stage.

In order to answer a DX enquiry from Finland, can any Irish reader help us with identifying a station.... It operates on 99.3MHz., not from the Dublin area, has a 'country and Irish style' programme with Jim Cagney at 18:00 and identifies as what sounds like CNR (Is it Waterford?). Two places names are noted and these sound like 'Killeshin' and 'Capelogue'. Info to P.O.Box 539 etc., please.

SIGHTSEEING TRIPS to the North Sea to look at the m.v. Ross Revenge are currently under consideration from the Essex coast. If you are interested in such trips to take place on a regular basis, please write to the following address for more details... Boat Trips, 621 Main Road, Dovercourt, Harwich CO12 4NH.

HOLOPHONICS™

HOLOPHONICS™ is a revolutionary new process which replaces the microphone in the audio recording process.

For the listener, a **HOLOPHONIC™** recording provides the first opportunity to experience "real" sound exactly as it occurred in the original recording environment, with precise up and down, front and back, side to side and far and near spatial reference.

HOLOPHONICS™ recording technology does away with the use of traditional microphones (which record mechanical sound waves encountered during a recording session) and instead uses a proprietary sound processing technique, to capture the full spectrum of essential information that travels from the ear to the brain during a recording session.

On playback the information reaches the Auditory Cortex of the listeners brain and recreates the same sensations experienced during the original event.

This revolutionary process provides "natural" sound rather than "mechanically reproduced" sound.

HOLOPHONICS™ can be heard perfectly on any inexpensive C.D. player or radio speakers.

Expensive equipment is not necessary for better sound because the sound is recreated in the listeners brain. Digital Systems and noise reduction technologies contribute to the accurate recreation of original spatial information, resulting in a solid image of sound or "Audio Hologram", but even with less than ideal equipment, **HOLOPHONICS™** will always provide a very realistic sound with improved clarity and quality of the recording or broadcast.

Listen to a **HOLOPHONIC™** recording, in mono using just one speaker, and you will still notice the enhanced clarity along with a sense of depth and dimension . . . it will still have a broader dynamic range and be more full, rich and realistic than a microphonic recording.

DIMENSION

MUSIC & SOUND EFFECTS

The world's first **HOLOPHONIC™ Sound Effects Library** for less than most L.P. effects libraries.
1001 digitally recorded effects on 10 Compact Discs £425*

The world's only **HOLOPHONIC™ Production Music Library**. Containing 343 Digitally Mastered Music Cuts of 60" and 30" duration, on 10 Compact Discs £695*.

Libraries sold on a lifetime blanket licence agreement with no usage fees, royalty fees, or renewal fees payable.
When you buy it **you own it for life**.

All C.D.'s have an unlimited warranty.

If **at anytime** a C.D. becomes damaged **for any reason** simply return it for a free replacement.

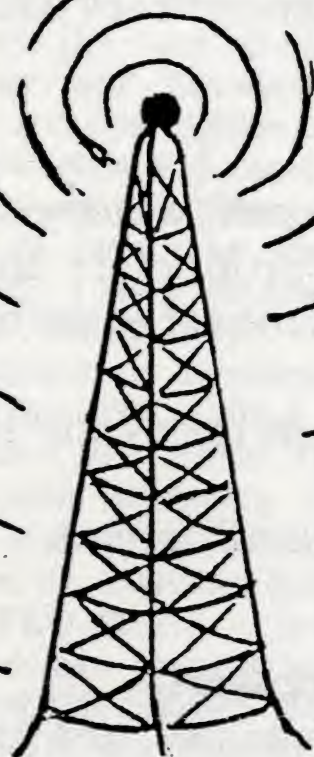
DIMENSION HOLOPHONIC™ C.D.'s are available now

Contact:- LAWRENCE JOHN, Tel: (0232) 655837

*PRICE SUBJECT TO FLUCTUATION OF THE U.S. DOLLAR

HOLOPHONICS IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF ZUCCARELLI HOLOPHONICS, INC. U.S.A.

GET READY FOR COMMUNITY RADIO! WITH "POWERTRONICS UK" QUALITY STEREO FM BROADCAST BAND TX



COMPLETE UNIT FULLY
BOXED AND TESTED
TOGETHER WITH ANTENNA
ONLY £150.00

- * HIGH STABILITY
- * BROADCAST QUALITY STEREO
- * MINIMUM RF OUTPUT 15 WATTS
- * 12V DC REGULATED
- * TRANSMITTING ANTENNA

GET ON THE AIR WITH FIVE STAR
PERFORMANCE

SEND CHEQUES/PO TO "POWERTRONICS UK"
PO BOX 46, STOCKTON, CLEVELAND TS17 6YR
PLEASE STATE FREQUENCY REQUIRED
AND ALLOW 14 DAYS FOR DELIVERY

LAND-BASED STATIONS.

LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

3rd - 7th June 1988.

This weekend, touched down on 36 stations, 11 in stereo.

Missing / not heard :- Fame and Strong Island.

C4's 'The Last Resort' (Fri. 3rd June) took a radio format, complete with ILR type jingles, as its theme. Those people who followed Jonathan Woss's constant urging, and tuned their radios to 92.678302 to listen in stereo, would actually have heard long time North London long weekend soulsters, **Studio FM** (92.65) firing away on all cylinders. (At least in the London area). The choice of that frequency was no doubt co-incidental - or was it? Long before his cult celebrity status, JR worked on another C4 associated project, where it would have been essential to have an intimate knowledge of the 'black music' scene. 'Privateer Radio' has been an integral part of the 'Black Music Biz', with its numerous cross links between clubs, record companies, artists and stations, for a number of years. The programme he worked on as a researcher, was the highly successful black music showcase 'Soul Train'.

It looks like **Traffic Jam** (97.95) has been picked as the DoTI Men's 'Hit-of-the-Month'. (Incidentally, did you know that the DoTI is the successor to the Board of Trade & Industry thich would have made them the B....). TJR seem to be getting more than the average number of hits just lately, and it could be heard when they returned and slipped down to 97.85 amid a horrendous collection of clicks, buzzes, hums, switch offs and dead air, as adjustments were made to bring them back up to their more accustomed power status on 97.95, by Sunday.

Also having setting-up problems of a slightly different kind, were Sunday rockers **R-FM** (94.25) who were testing in stereo for a short time, on Saturday evening. (Why is it that they never use the stereo rig for Sunday?) It sounded as though the link transmitter antennas were moving about in the wind, as the signal came and went, although the tx remained on. At just after 8pm, the tx went dead, but everything was fine for the 'Magnificent Seven' on Sunday. Part time Saturday rockers **London Rock** (88.8) were back for another outing, having missed the Bank Holiday weekend, with a wide spectrum of rock music, that completely blocked out East London weekend soulsters **Sunrise** (88.85) for the evening.

Proving that they have staying power after all, **CD-93** (93.25 - stereo) returned for a second Saturday in a row, albeit with a later start-up time than usual. They had a nice clean signal spreading 'left and right just a little further apart'. **Starpoint** (93.25 - stereo) followed on as usual for Sunday.

A couple of slots to the left, and **Solar** (93.0 - stereo) followed the old axiom of 'if you've got something good - then flog it to death'. Which is what happened as Lee Randell's 50's Doo-Wop round-up was given its third airing in a little over a week. With more re-runs than ITV, maybe S.O.L.A.R. should now stand for - Souled Out, Let's have Another Repeat.

Having finally settled on 97.0, it is still not clear what kind of schedule (if any) North London soulsters **Soul FM** are keeping to, but they turned up on Sunday for the day, to keep company with the still unidentified weekend soulsters, also from North London, on 96.85. East London's **WLIB** (90.9) were coming through loud and clear for once, on Friday evening and Saturday morning, and then went off, to re-appear on Sunday afternoon with test tapes. This despite West London's **SRI** (90.95) being considerably down in power. (Have they lost another tx, or has the collection for the coin in the slot meter not yet arrived?)

Problems of a similar kind have come up for Peckham's **Sky Radio** (91.75), in the shape of a so far unidentified Greek station in the North of town, settling on the same slot. This causes them reception problems, which are already difficult with the proximity of a BBC Radio 3 relay on 91.70. They are now tricky to pick up outside the immediate locality, except overnight when the Greek is off.

In the hectic days of last summer when they squatted uneasily on 105.00, **London Greek Radio** could lose a transmitter a day to the DoTI Men. In October they upped crystals and moved, eventually down to 88.4'ish, where they have remained ever since, with less than the average amount of trouble from the tax men. This period of comparative peace and quiet, has brought a new confidence to LGR, and this was shown on Saturday when they went stereo for the first time.

'**The Arab**' (89.7) made a slow comeback, re-opening with a very weak mono signal which improved over the weekend to a moderately clean, undistorted (for them) stereo signal, which didn't splash over everything in sight.

'New' Hits-FM (103.05) made a welcome, if inauspicious, return on Saturday, with their non-stop back-to-back Top Forty format. As before, no intros, outros, oldies, newies, climbers or 'power plays' (paid or un-paid) - just the current top forty with the occasional Bill Mitchell ident. They came on air on 102.9'ish and slowly moved up band until they were just over the 103.0 mark in their early hours of Tuesday morning. The signal and reception footprint varied considerably over the weekend. This led to speculation as to whether this was due to the move of frequency, or if different tx sites were being used. The signal was up-rated, and the tape up-dated Monday, and the re-introduction of 'teaser ads' between alternate tracks was noted, this time for a racing tipster service.

As 'new' Hits FM came on the air, so North London's **WNK** (102.85) went off. They would have experienced considerable discomfort from the closeness of 'new' Hits initial signal on 102.95. They returned on Monday, not only on 102.85, but also 102.15. At this point, it is not known if 102.15 is a primary or spurious signal. The splashover from the then off-air **TKO** (102.4 - stereo) normally covers this slot, and is also just inside the emergency services band. (That doesn't seem to worry **TJR** (97.95) who have been in that position since they first started transmitting). Both signals had gone by Tuesday morning. For the second time in two weeks, **TKO** (102.4 - stereo) went off air late on Sunday. Last week saw them returning on Thursday. Up to the point of writing (Wednesday morning) they hadn't been heard from, so it remains to be seen if they do the same this week.

Sky FM (91.75) and **Passion Radio** (90.7) remain resolutely in mono, despite last weeks brief excursion into stereo. Just up the road, and **LWR** (92.05 -stereo) came out to burst forth into stereo on Monday morning, with a tape full of non-stop mixing aural pyrotechnics, just prior to the start of the breakfast show. The channel levels are slightly unbalanced, with a slight lift on the left hand channel, which no doubt, will be adjusted in the fullness of time. They had probably been prompted into this move by last week's re-emergence of **Time Radio** (103.75 - stereo) as a powerhouse stereo station. **LWR** turned up late that day in unexplained circumstances, as a possible 'spoiler' relay over the top of tests of pop/rock music on 105.25 (Raiders? or have they finally blown out?) Shortly after the tests began, a strong stereo signal intermittently broke in over the mono signal. It finally became a constant signal and blanketed them completely. This may have been **PCR** (105.25 - stereo weekends) laying an unequivocal claim to this slot, by coming on air to show they are prepared to do battle to protect their claim to this slot. Soulsters **PCR** had only been on air for one day over the the weekend, having missed their usual start time of Saturday morning from their deep south base. Brixton's **Classic Radio** (105.45) have now happily settled down with a 7 day / 24 hour format of blues and soul, with a little bit of jazz on the side. They've even managed to hang onto their transmitter for the whole week!

Also heard were South London weekenders **Groove Weekend Radio** (89.8), **KISS FM** (93.95 - stereo) and **South London Radio** (103.2). Greeks - **G.C.R.** (104.45), and **G.R.L./ H.R.L.** (96.15). Asian - **Brittania Radio** (95.35). North London 7 day / 24 hour stations - **RJR** (90.0), **City Radio** (94.45), **JBC** (104.3 - stereo), **Fresh FM** (103.35). South London 7 day / 24 hour station **Rock-to-Rock** (90.35)

LONDON UP-DATE. Everything seems to be more or less as normal this week, with stations listed by Sid, all being confirmed by other correspondents. There have possibly been a few raids, with **LWR** (92.1) and **WLIB** (91.0) both missing on Saturday morning, followed by **KISS FM** (93.95) and **Solar 93** (93.0) also disappearing by yesterday afternoon. One change was the appearance of the 'New Hits FM' on a frequency just above that of **Traffic Jam**, on around 98.3MHz. (moved from 102.9). This seemed rather a strange channel to pick, being even closer the mobile band than **Traffic Jam**. The DTI also thought so, and the station was raided on Friday, after first being logged on Thursday evening. The original **Hits FM** (105.5) were also on the air yesterday, and from a phone call to the station it was discovered that the 'new' station was being run by one of their former members. **London Rock** (88.7) were also heard last night. In the East London area, **Stomp FM** once again had a powerful signal on 105.4MHz., on Saturday morning.

THE SOUTH COAST. The ILR station Southern Sound had its 96.9MHz. relay taken over by a mystery group of individuals on Sunday 15th May. The interruption to the

station's normal programmes lasted for 30 minutes from 21:00, during the 'Tommy Boyd' show. No actual ID's were given by the 'pirates', but the programming was described as being of an adult nature.

Eastbourne Dance Radio (E.D.R.) are yet another station to appear in the Eastbourne area, this time on 106MHz. They operate at 19:00 most Sunday evenings. Programming, as the name suggests is of a disco/hip-hop mixture, and presenters are J. Rogers and Paul Nelson. The station has a contact address of 128 Kingfisher Drive, Eastbourne, Sussex BN23 7RT. Nothing has been heard from the normally regular station, **A.B.C. Radio** (105.3) for some weeks now.

BRISTOL. Once again activity has been at an all time low, with only **Radio For The People** (103.6 - mono) actually putting out any programmes. Their daily schedule has been uncertain the past week, with hours sometimes being extended into the early mornings. Sign on now seems to be at around 13:00 most days. A very professional promotion for a soul event in Gloucester has been aired several times. This seems to be a joint venture between **Radio F.T.P.** and London's **LWR**. The station is still seeking presenters, particularly female, and the facilities to train new deejays is available. Sadly, **B.A.D. Radio** were not on the air last weekend to celebrate their first birthday - perhaps they will appear this week.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. Friday 3rd June saw **N.B.C.** make their usual broadcast on 102.5MHz. Programming was between 20:00 and 02:00, and presenters were 'Matt the Hat', Johnny Two Tone', and 'Iceman'. The station was also on the air on Sunday evening. A mystery signal around this same frequency was on the air Monday evening (6th June), with an extremely strong signal. No identification was heard amongst the non-stop L.P. sides. It was again on the air on Wednesday evening, this time with full sides of what appeared to be mainly Italian music albums, with dialogue on the records. This is not a signal due to skip conditions, as a blank carrier is on during the daytime also, with the music in the evenings. We hope to have more information on this one next time.

YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE & DERBYSHIRE.

Across in Hull, **Radio Takoradi** finally made it to the air last weekend with some test transmissions on 105.0MHz. One particular time they were monitored was between 00:05 and 00:50 on Saturday morning (4th June). Signal strength on this particular test was said to be good, but the audio was poor. More tests are expected this weekend.

In Leeds the three community stations have all been monitored over the past 7 days. **Music City Radio** were noted with their regular weekend schedule on 90.3MHz., although they appeared to be late on, on Friday evening (3rd). This station seems to have the best signal of all three, judging by reports we have received. **Peoples FM** (91.8) were heard most evenings, and **ABC FM** (105.2) have also been on the air every day. **Thunder Radio** (104.8) came on with regular Sunday evenings shows at 20:00 on 5th June. They disappeared prior to 22:00, but this had nothing to do with the DTI. A strong unidentified transmission was noted last Sunday afternoon (5th) on 104.95MHz., for about 30 minutes, playing continuous music with Veronica jingles. This was believed to be a test of a transmitter for another station, as **Radio Veronica** have now closed down.

We hear that **NLV Radio** (104.9) from Keighley, were on the air again on Monday 6th June, but transmissions were cut short as the operators thought the DTI were in their area. Keep checking the frequency though, as they hope to be back on soon.

Village Radio (105.2) were on the air on last Monday and Tuesday evenings (6th & 7th June). It was announced by deejay Chris Roberts, that the station would make its final broadcast on 1st July. No reason was given for the closure. **Rebel Radio** (105.4) were not on this week, and are understood to be awaiting a new transmitter before any more broadcasts are made. A new station called **Vulcan radio** is expected to begin operations shortly in the 105 to 106MHz. region, to the South Yorkshire area.

NOTTINGHAM. **Heatwave Community Radio** (105.1) are currently the only operation to have been monitored in this area. They are still heard 7 days per week, and have a good turnover of adverts. Early on Friday morning (10th) at 00:45, something appeared to be amiss, as the power to the transmitter was lost briefly, followed by the presenter 'The Captain' repeatedly giving out a 'newsflash', asking for 'J.D. Walker' to come to the studio, as it was very urgent. The

previous Saturday, the station had a popular reggae musician live in the studio, answering listeners questions on a 'phone-in'. He was playing a gig in Nottingham that evening.

THE MIDLANDS. **Powerhouse Radio** (105.0) are now definately in stereo, and on every evening from around 16:00. On the morning of 2nd June, PHR announced an early closure due to a studio move. The station opened late the same evening, saying they were at their new studio. On 7th June, D.J. HMB of **Electro Radio** (95.0) was heard hosting a show on PHR. On the show he stated that Electro would be back on in a few weeks on a new channel, possibly 107MHz. Also heard every evening has been **Midland Asian Community Radio** (106.0). Strangely on 3rd June, they could not be heard on 106MHz., due to a strange hiss covering the top of the FM band, but they were noted with a weak and distorted signal on 95MHz. Following a few technical problems last weekend, **Enterprise FM** (91.9) are back with a good strong signal, 7 days per week. Sister station **Solar Rock** (90.9) were not heard at all last weekend. **Fresh FM** (95.0) were back on last Friday - Sunday with a stronger signal. Adverts have occasionally been heard, and the address given out is the same as the former Second City Radio... 131-133 Corporation Sreet, Birmingham. **Radio P.C.R.L.** (103.5) chug away as ever, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

MERSEYSIDE. We understand that **Storeton Community Radio** were on the air last Sunday, on 1026kHz. We missed this, despite occasional checks. Word from Bob Kemo-Sabe (we got it right this time!) tells us that S.C.R. and North Coast Radio, who were on several weeks ago, have now amalgamated to form a 'New S.C.R.' which should now be on each Sunday, starting today, on 1026kHz. 1350kHz. has been abandonned due to strong foreign interference in the evening. The transmission last week was just a test. On Monday, **Radio Merseywaves** (1242) carrier only was noted until after 10:00. This erupted into life shortly afterwards with normal programmes, although it was announced that due to studio refurbishing, no Thursday transmissions would be carried out for a couple of weeks. Some studio problems were noted during the day. **Radio Atlantis** (1197) emerged as usual at 10:00 and programmed throughout the day, with just Rick Dane, as he also did on Saturday and Sunday.

As expected, we didn't hear anything until Thursday, when a carrier was noted from **Radio Merseywaves** on 1242kHz. Programmes didn't commence until Friday. Saturday morning saw the return of Dave Collins to the breakfast shows, which he is expected to host from now on, in his unique style.

Storeton Community Radio appeared on 1026kHz., with a good signal, but were having a few problems with RF feedback into the audio equipment. As a result the audio levels were up and down, and a little distorted. The station decided to stay on despite this, and hope to sort out the problems by next week. They still announce coming from the 'Mersey Bar', and the starboard and port studios! Two mailing addresses have been heard, which we hope to have full details of them next time.

Radio Julie (104.8) were on over the weekend, but again due to lack of FM aerial, we cannot comment on the signal strength, or programming.

MANCHESTER. **WBLs** (102.3) and **Laser 10-35** (103.5) have both been on the air all week, with Laser now having better audio. No others have been reported to us over the past week.

RENFREWSHIRE. All stations have been on this week. **Radio Mercury** (96.1) on Thursday and Friday evenings, from 18:00-21:00 and Sunday 14:00-17:00. Theye have a new address of P.O. Box 433 Govanhill, Glasgow. **Northside Community Radio** (103.4) were heard between 21:00 and 23:00 on Sunday and Wednesday. Finally **Clyde Valley Radio** were on two channels yesterday afternoon, 103.55 and 103.7.

OFFSHORE RADIO...m.v. Ross Revenge. A crew change took place on Monday, with two presenters, Mike Williams and Steve Masters leaving the ship for some shore leave. It appears that no one was sent out to replace them, as the 21:00 slot on Monday (6th) was hosted by Mike Watts. Tuesday morning saw the station leave the air following the news and the theme tune, at 09:04. The close-down was mentioned several times by Keith Francis, during the breakfast show, and it was stated that the station would be back on at 16:00, following some essential maintainance. This was not the case however, and they were still off the air at 20:35 (the time when we usually start to lose the signal). It was obvious something big was going on, as the shortwave was also off

the air at the time. For all services to be off this would mean either generator maintainance, or major aerial work. On tuning on Wednesday morning, the station was noted back on air, both on 558 and on 6215kHz. We heard no comments initially from breakfast jock, Keith Francis, as to why they had been missing the previous day. The 'Cuddle Up to Caroline' show at 21:00, has been hosted by several jocks each evening, including Ad Roberts, Steve Conway and Dave Asher. More changes on Thursday, brought the staffing level back up, with two new presenters, Ian Mack and Neil Gates, of which we know nothing about at present. Ian seems to have been put in the daytime slots, and Neil in the evenings, but due to changing at the end of the week, the weekday line-up is not yet known. Generator problems forced all services off at 12:18 today, and at time of writing it has not returned. Steve Conway was hosting the afternoon show, and seems to have re-named it 'Powerdrive'.

The Dutch tests transmissions did not re-appear all weekend, leading to speculation that something had gone wrong with the aerial system, or that the signal was just not good enough from the 'whip' aerial. Looking at a photo taken on 25th May, we must say that the 'new' Valcon aerial, placed right at the rear of the vessel and guyed extensively, looked quite impressive. Whether it proves its worth, remains to be seen. Current address on the short-lived (at this moment) '819', is Box 146, Playa de Aro, Gerona, Spain. Their on the hour theme tune is new to us, and is once again, another 'dramatic' number. Does anyone know the title of it.

SHORTWAVE STATIONS...Log for Sunday 12th June 1988.

6200kHz...**RADIO TONAIR**, at 11:30gmt.
6205kHz...**UNID.** at 08:43gmt.
6215kHz...**WORLD MISSION RADIO**, at 07:50gmt.
6225kHz...**P.F.B.S.**, at 09:34gmt.
6231kHz...**UNID.**, at 10:41gmt.
6231kHz...**RADIO RAINBOW INT.**, at 11:01gmt.
6231kHz...**W.L.R.**, at 11:03gmt.
6256kHz...**R.T.R. INT.**, at 11:27gmt.
6257kHz...**RED CAPITAL RADIO**, at 10:45gmt.
6265kHz...**UNID.**, at 09:10gmt.
6276kHz...**RADIO BLOND PIRAAT**, at 07:17gmt.
6276kHz...**RADIO NEW WAVE**, at 07:42gmt.
6280kHz...**WABC/WESTSIDE RADIO INT.**, at 08:55gmt.
6300kHz...**RADIO ORION**, at 10:40gmt.
6310kHz...**RADIO MARABU**, at 08:37gmt.
6310kHz...**R. EAST COAST COMMERCIAL**, at 1052gmt.
6310kHz...**CRUISIN' SOLID GOLD**, at 11:15gmt.
6317kHz...**WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO**, at 12:11gmt.
6320kHz...**RADIO WAVES INT.**, at 07:22gmt.
6320kHz...**RADIO LUCE**, at 10:59gmt.
6815kHz...**P.F.B.S.**, at 08:03gmt.
6815kHz...**RADIO PAMELA**, at 10:47gmt.
6815kHz...**R. EAST COAST COMM.**, at 11:20gmt.
6850kHz...**RADIO SKYWAVE INT.**, at 08:05gmt.
6910kHz...**RADIO DUBLIN INT.**, at 07:53gmt.
7315kHz...**RADIO SUESAN**, at 10:45gmt.
7375kHz...**RADIO LUCE**, at 07:56gmt.
7375kHz...**RADIO WAVES INT.**, at 08:22gmt.
7446kHz...**RADIO STELLA INT.**, at 08:26gmt.

Band conditions today were quite good, with stations from all areas being heard with good signals. Thanks to loggers in The Midlands, Norwich and Hampshire. Stations in bold were heard here in Blackpool.

The unidentified on 6231kHz., at 10:41 was being relayed by Radio Rainbow, but the audio was muffled, and we could not get a full ID., although it sounded like either Big K Radio, or Disco Radio.

Radio Orion have a new address of P.O. Box 1280, Rednall, Birmingham B45 8SQ.

Two stations were operating on 6310kHz., this morning, with R.E.C.C. coming out best both here and elsewhere.

The third battleground was 6815kHz. (the first being 6256kHz), where as in previous weeks, R.E.C.C. and Radio Pamela were fighting it out, with both stations being heard together for most of the time.

Word from Jock Wilson at Radio Stella, tells us that the 6318kHz. transmitter, which has not been heard for a couple of weeks, has actually burnt out. The test transmission on 7490kHz. was just that, and this transmitter is now hoping to move to 6310kHz. The 400 watt transmitter of Radio Rainbow International, is also to move from its present 6230kHz., up to 6318kHz.

The WEEKLY

REPORT

ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 216.....19th JUNE 1988. **P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.**

We must sincerely apologise, first off this week, for the rather 'tatty' appearance of this week's issue of Weekly Report. As you can no doubt gather, we have been hit by a serious problem with the computer and printer. Despite much work by the engineers and their assurances that everything will be alright for the weekend printing, the minute the weekend arrived, the whole lot packed up, leaving us with a simple typewriter. We have not even got the bold capitals facility. So, please bear with us this week and hopefully, all should be back to normal for next week. Some sections of the issue were, however, pre-printed and this has assisted us considerably.

Our original opening commented on the dying pirate era in Ireland and how all stations had no choice but to cease broadcasting by the end of the year. Of course, the majority of operators will be hoping that they will be in with a chance of a licence, but all this will remain to be seen as the final months go by. Back at home, competition is hotting up on the satellite delivered side of radio, with Richard Branson's "Radio, Radio" operation set to start on 1st July, in direct competition to Chris Cary's "Nova International" and despite the former stating that they will play a different kind of music to anyone else. Both stations are eager to get their service relayed by as many as ILR stations as possible to listeners without satellite dishes. Of course, the number with dishes grows daily and along with the expanding cable operations makes the whole thing look very promising, even if it is still a thing of the future. The competition, of course, will be good and the above two will no doubt be joined by countless other operators as the days, months and years go on.

WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday afternoon from Blackpool. The 20p news-sheet is available on subscription at the following weekly rates.....posted First Class, within the U.K., also to EEC European countries, including Eire, 40p..... posted at second class rate within the U.K. only, 35p..... posted at full rate to non-EEC European countries (Sweden, Finland, Norway, Switzerland, etc.), 45p..... posted elsewhere, world-wide, by air mail, 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish at the above appropriate rate.

PAYMENT for any items whatsoever may be made in any way, but we must point out that coins, especially the £1 variety, are repeatedly being stolen from incoming envelopes. Stamps are a far better method and cost no extra to buy. We like 13p and 18p ones from the U.K. and 28p ones from Eire. We now accept Barclaycard/ Visa credit cards in addition to Access. Telephone orders can be made during office hours, on (0253) 882017, stating your card number, your name, the expiry date and of course, what you wish to purchase. (Your address also if you are not a subscriber to WR). Cash, cheques, bank drafts, postal orders can be sent, and we also have a Girobank / Postgiro account for the benefit of anyone who wishes to avail of this (usually) free transfer of money service from both at home and abroad. The account number is 12 141 6909 and the account is in the name of R & B.F. Johnston.

ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT for just £20.00 for a full page, £11.00 for a half and £6.00 for a quarter. Our 'mega-mail-out' to 1,000 non-subscribing members is imminent. If you wish to avail of an advert here, the cost is £50.00 for a full page and £25.00 for half. Send us your original copy on white paper, with good black print and the remittance, and leave the rest to us. Advertisers with their own material should ring us at once for the price in this case. This latter mail-out is very imminent, call us now if you wish to participate, on (0253) 882017.

THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO-LINE will keep you up-dated with events as they happen. Call Sheerness (0795) 511118 and here a 3 minute (max.) message. News for us is best written in to Box 539, but calls will be accepted on Blackpool (0253) 882017 or a message taken on our Ansa-phone service on Sheerness (0795) 511119.

"COMMUNICATE '88", the north's first free radio convention will take place on Saturday 24th September 1988 in Blackpool. All subscribers will next week receive the glossy hand-out and booking form for said event, but in the meantime, we would be obliged if anyone who requires a sales stand could contact us requesting a booking form for this purpose.

NEW MERCHANDISE. **OFFSHORE MAGAZINE**, Issue 45 is now in stock. This glossy, 24 x A5 page magazine is Dutch, but has a fairly extensive English language section, along with numerous photos. All about the offshore scene, the price here is £1.90..... Just a quick mention that we have currently in stock, the latest magazine from Offshore Echo's, Issue 71. This too, is £1.90 and has 64 pages..... also now in stock, the latest set of photos from the North Sea, "Ross Revenge - May '88". This set contains 6 x Jumbo colour prints and shows close-ups of the aerial array and various feeders and the rear mast. The price is £3.00. An item back in stock after some absence is Alfasound Jingles, Volume II which contains 100 jingles for discos and radio stations. The L.P. version of this item is now no longer available, and Alfasound tell us that they have no plans to re-press it. Also only available now on a cassette, is Alfasound Jingles Volume 3. Again, the L.P. will not be re-pressed. This one was partially recorded in Dallas, and has proved popular in the past. Both these cassettes cost £7.99 each. Alfasound Jingles Volume 1 is still available on an L.P. priced at £7.99.

NEW ARRIVALS. Plenty of reading matter arrived here this week. We start off first with **ACTIVITY MAGAZINE** Issue 3. This one contains 24, A5 pages all about the world of free radio. Featured this time are Short wave reports for May, a 'Pirates of the Past' section, along with other bits and pieces from around the country. Price for this magazine is £1.00 from Activity Magazine, 3 Greenway, Harold Park, Romford, Essex RM3 0HH.....The ever regular **PLAY DX** No. 510 contains 6 A4 pages of unusual MW and SW logs from the past week. The magazine also has regular sections in Spanish with details of Latin American activity, which is very useful for 60 and 90metre DX-ers. More information can be obtained from Dario Monferini, via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy. **NOW RADIO** covers all the radio spectrum, concentrating on mainly the 'legal' scene. Some offshore and land-based information is featured. No 61 is out now, and has 28 pages. For details contact Now Radio Communications, P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants NN16 0NW..... **MARINE BROADCAST NEWS** Issue 3 contains a very interesting story of the radio stations in the Thames Estuary, which is several pages long. Also in this issue, is a map of the estuary with many of the former positions of broadcasting vessels since the 1960's. Other items all about offshore radio are also included in this 18 page, A4 publication. The cost is £1.30 from Marine Broadcast News, P.O. Box 963, Clacton-On-Sea, Essex CO15 6ED..... **CONTACT**, The monthly bulletin of the World DX Club, Issue 6, Volume 25. 42 x coloured A4 sides of DX news and views, a must for the serious DX-ers amongst us. Send for details of the club from Arthur Ward, 17 Motspur Drive, Northampton NN2 6LY.....**FREKVEN**s, Den Nya Radio- och TV Tidningen, Issue No. 1 of 1988 is the final item this week and is a superbly produced A4 magazine with 48 pages devoted to radio and TV in the Nordic countries, along with an offshore section by Per Lindholm and other European news. Plenty of photos, but the text is entirely in Swedish. Details from Mediaforeningen RTV, Box 2081, S - 145 02 Norsborg, Sweden.

TAPE OFFERS. Just two on offer this week, and after many requests, Tape 211 features Nick Richards on KISS FM in Monaghan Town in Ireland. Nick hosts the breakfast show on this station and is well remembered for his programmes on Radio Caroline, both

in the '70's and '80's, and on South Coast Radio from Cork in the early '80's. This tape was recorded in Belfast, off FM and shows just how strong the signal is in the city (the target area)..... Tape 212 takes us down under again, but this time to more remote areas. Side 'A' features "8TOP FM (104.1)", a community / university station in Darwen. This section has a pop/ rock format and is hosted by a laid-back presenter called Wendy Hanson. Side 'B' takes us to Alice Springs and again, an FM stereo station "8CCC". This is an evening programme and the format is once again pop/ rock. Both of this week's tape offers are recorded in May, off FM stereo and come on C.90 tapes. The price, as usual, is £2.00 each and this includes postage and packing.

RADIO STATION NEWS....IRELAND.

Co. DUBLIN. Super Q 102 FM, absent from the 819 slot at the time of printing, last week, returned on Sunday evening, but not for too long as further breaks were noted on Monday and extensively on Tuesday. Speaking to people at the station, we were told that the problem was a valve in the transmitter. This has obviously now been replaced and the station is now 'firing on all cylinders' once again. The shock news of the week from the station told us that both Scott Williams and Gareth O'Callaghan had received offers from RTE, which neither could refuse, and as a result, both left the station at the weekend. We expect to next hear them on Millenium Radio in the city. Gareth is reported to be on air on Monday, tomorrow, with Scott, mainly doing production work, during the week, with the odd live show thrown in. Replacements for the above two are rumoured to be Liam Coburn (ex Energy) and Tony Dixon (ex Sinshine). The P.D., Bill Cunningham, has taken to the streets and is giving away sums of money to people who answer two questions with 'Super Q 102 FM'. The questions being, What station do you listen to? and What station did you listen to yesterday?

Over at Sunshine 101 FM, auditions have already started for the 'Malibu Big Kahuna '88'. Entrants are invited to audition live on the air for just 30 seconds, mentioning the competition and sponsor. Quarter finalists will then be chosen from the thousands who are expected to be heard. Already numerous have been noted.

ENTRY FORM

ENTRY FORM



**THE BIG KAHUNA
ONE PERSON WINS
£50,000.00 In Goodies!**

**Plus
A PAID D.J. JOB FOR 1 YEAR**

A further competition has been heard being promoted..... 'Free Money'. It appears that a certain record is played each morning, at a certain time and when that record is played again later in the day, the listener calls the station on 460400 and wins £10.00.

Down in the centre of the city itself, Millenium Radio continues daily, on 1278kHz., now up to 5kw., and also on 88.0MHz. locally. The ever-increasing line-up here makes one wonder if this station could be in the running for one of the forthcoming licences. Current line-up reads..... (Monday to Thursday)..... 08:00 (opt-out from Radio 2) John Clark..... 11:00 'Maxi'..... 12:00 Jimmy Greeley..... 15:00 Gareth O'Callaghan..... 18:00 back to Radio 2. (Friday)..... 08:00 Scott Williams 11:00 'Maxi'..... 12:00 Jimmy Greeley..... 15:00 Declan

Meehan..... 18:00 back to Radio 2. Saturdays and Sundays see further change-arounds of staff, plus the Chart Show.

Treble T.R. Radio have been noted missing from 891kHz. for over a week, although 936kHz. is still operative, along with their various FM outlets.

Heartbeat FM have been noted on 97.3MHz. Whether this is their own transmitter, or something to do with Radio West, who had a Dublin relay on this channel, is yet to be discovered.

A Radio Jackie has been logged on 94.4MHz. on several evenings recently, playing hip-hop type music. This kind of music gets very little airplay in Dublin. However, the frequency is an ill chosen one, and rather close to 94.5MHz, which is one of the BBC channels received then relayed via various cable networks. Should they have any reception problems, then this could trouble for this new station.

North of the city, Community Radio Fingal/ Pulsar 98 continues to put in one of the strongest signals from Eire, to the west coast of Britain. However, recently, they have had some modulation problems, resulting in very low audio levels indeed. Having said that, a quick check reveals an improved situation. **Co. MEATH.** There have been a few change-arounds in the Navan area this past week. First of all, we understand that the Radio Carousel network has now closed down all stations. The network had been on the air in one form or another for some ten years, following the setting up of the original Radio Carousel in Dundalk in 1978. Radio Carousel Navan was the last in the network, following the closure of the Dundalk and northern

SERVING COUNTY MEATH

24 HOURS PER DAY

**210m radio CAROUSEL
NAVAN**

services some little while ago. We noted that the 1386kHz. outlet had not been on the air for about two weeks, but were not sure as to whether this was due to technical problems or otherwise. Monitoring this service before it left the airwaves, it was noticed that only continuous music was played, part from a programme from 'Christine' from 10:00 till 14:00 hours, daily. Christine has been heard on the station for many, many years, with a request programme and even right up to the end, the station seemed to have many listeners, judging by the number of requests noted. Then, last week, we noted that the recently opened Boyneside Radio-Navan (1332kHz./97.6MHz.) had acquired said Christine for its morning show. Saturday morning (18th) saw 1386kHz. come alive, but this time, with the latter station in operation. This signified the end of the line for the Carousel era on this frequency (over five years). This move gives Boyneside Radio a much clearer signal into the UK, as BBC Radio Ulster was right next to their former channel on 1332kHz. The vacancy on 1332kHz. also gives us, once again, the chance to hear Mid-West Radio from Ballyhaunis in County Mayo.

Co. LOUTH. Following the final closure of the Radio Carousel network, this leaves Telstar Community Radio solely serving the Dundalk area. They have a strong signal on 1197kHz. which has been on air almost continuously since the early 1980's. The FM outlet there is understood to be well down in power at present and is only audible a couple of miles from the transmitter site. Also, we are unsure as to whether the 1170kHz., recently introduced outlet is on the air at the moment, or not.

Back in Drogheda, Heady Eddie was noted back from his holidays last Monday, and no doubt surprised to find the new radio bill had gone through the Dail. He does not appear to be excessively worried and continues with his expansion plans. Again, the thought of obtaining a licence must be uppermost in his mind.

Co. WATERFORD. The main station in the city, ABC Radio, have recently installed a relay transmitter in Wexford Town, on 1116kHz., with 200 watts of power. An FM transmitter is expected to be installed to cover the Wexford area, in a few days time. Further relays are expected to be installed, to serve areas to the north, like Enniscorthy. The station are also running a competition until the end of August, in which the prize is £2000 worth of Panasonic Hi Fi equipment. Three records will be played in a row, and the 50th caller to identify them, wins.

End of an era signalled for pirate radio

THE PASSING of the Government's Broadcasting Bill through all stages in the Dail last week effectively marks the end of the line for illegal broadcasting in this country, and the pirate stations themselves have been the first to admit it.

Three of Dublin's biggest pirates — Sunshine 101, Q102 and Treble TR — said they would close down rather than break the new laws, which come into effect on December 31st next.

Their willingness to co-operate with the terms of the new Bill, however, is presumably not prompted solely by the desire to comply with the law as respectable, bona fide business companies. Fear of the hefty penalties — fines of up to £20,000 and imprisonment for up to two years — and the need to be perceived as responsible broadcasters play their part too, for most if not all of today's pirates harbour hopes of being tomorrow's fully legal, local and community radio broadcasters.

All three stations have said they will apply to the soon-to-be-established Independent Radio and Television Committee for licences to broadcast legally,

The Government's broadcasting legislation, which comes into effect on December 30th, will put an end to pirate radio once and for all. RONAN FOSTER reports on how some of the pirates themselves view the new laws.

and while their history as illegal operators may not be held against them, their continued operation after December 31st certainly would.

The founder and managing-director of Sunshine 101, Mr Robbie Robinson, who refers to the Broadcasting Act as "the closure Act — because it will put an end to unlicensed broadcasting in this State," wrote to the company's advertisers and suppliers at the weekend saying Sunshine would close down "not later than 23.59 hours on December 30th, 1988" and would not return to the airwaves "until licensed to do so."

Ninety-nine per cent of the other pirates would do the same thing, he said, because they would be unable to sustain the penalties they would incur if they stayed open. The "closure Bill" has brought about the end of an era, according to Mr Robinson.

It was his hope, he said, that licences to broadcast would be issued to Sunshine and the other

applicants in time to enable them to operate beyond December 31st without interruption. A time lag between the new legislation forcing the pirates off the air at the end of the year and licences being issued would not be acceptable to his station's listeners, who were also, he reminded the Government, voters.

Mr Jimmy Smith, of Treble TR (Tallaght, Terenure, Templeogue and Rathfarnham) Radio welcomed the Bill, too, because it would keep unfit operators off the air, though he said it would add to the length of the dole queues by shutting illegal stations and throwing their staff out of work.

His station would close rather than break the law, something Mr Smith feels he is not doing at present. "We do not believe we are breaking the law, merely using the God-given airways," he said.

The pirate stations, although he does not like the term, have been stigmatised by the precarious legal position they have occupied

for so many years, he believes. There is a feeling that the money they make is dirty money, and that they do not pay their way. "We are one of the stations that pays VAT and everything else we are supposed to," he claimed, but how "much better will a station be in the future just because it is licensed?"

The problem with the licences is that many of them would be given out through "strokes and pull," he said. There were already many people in Dublin bragging about the fact that they were going to be issued licences, he said, but a lot of them won't even know what to do with them when they get them.

Q102, which was set up 2½ years ago, welcomed the Bill as "an excellent piece of legislation, as good as anyone in the business could have hoped for" that would give the better pirates the opportunity to come in from the cold.

"There are two different kinds of pirates in business now," a

Q102 spokesman said, "the legitimate pirates and the illegitimate pirates. The former pay VAT, PRSI, royalties and are responsible in their programming, while the latter pay nothing at all. We feel we are not playing on a level pitch ourselves at the moment," he said.

Q102, however, is confident that it will be granted a licence by the Commission, even though it has operated outside the law since it was founded. Operating as a pirate, their spokesman said, was unlikely to earn them any points with the Commission.

But while the Minister for Communications, Mr Burke, has said that the vast majority of the commercial pirates will not meet the criteria laid down by the Commission for licences, he has nonetheless included a provision in the Bill giving extra points to licence applicants with experience and expertise.

In spite of the Minister's understandable distaste for the notion that the illegal operators should be able to swap their status overnight, his Bill would appear to ensure that those who flouted the law in the past have the edge on those who did not.

THE IRISH TIMES, Monday, June 13, 1988

LAND-BASED STATIONS.

LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

10th - 14th June 1988.

This weekend touched down on 38 stations, 10 in stereo.

The weather, aided by a ridge of high pressure, brought in BBC transmitters from all over the U.K. as well as stations from France and Belgium. These did a better job of destroying the 'Privateer' signals on Friday and Saturday, than the massed forces of the B... (sorry!) DoTI Men. They could only manage five hits on Saturday, in the shape of SWR, Rock-to-Rock, Passion, Solar 93 and KISS FM. All, it should be noted, transmitting from the same general area, which probably meant that the 'Soul Destroyers' wanted a quick quota filler, to justify the overtime. Earlier in the week, LWR, TKO, PCR, Classic, 'New' Hits, weekenders Fame-FM, and from north of the Thames, SRI, GCR and WLJB, are all believed to have been hit for six by the DTI's first XI. Both SRI (90.75) and Greek Community Radio (104.4) made quick comebacks, but slightly off their normal slots, to be followed next by TKO (102.4) on Friday. Saturday saw daytime weekenders PCR (105.3) return. The usual cacophony of hums, buzzes and white noise, announced the impending return of LWR (92.1) later that afternoon. Prior to their being hit, LWR had only just gone back to stereo. All were on reduced power, and TKO had a noticeably less dynamic sound. Coverage and quality improved for the trio over the weekend, and by Monday morning, TKO were back with a stereo carrier. But it was all to no avail, as refreshed, the boys from Waterloo Bridge House, pulled the plugs on Monday, of TKO, LWR, Wembley's Traffic Jam, and possibly even Time Radio. Traffic Jam (97.95), who were the last to go down, had installed a new tx, and were testing by 7:30 that evening, with full programming following within an hour. Half an hour after TJR made it back, they were followed by Rock-to-Rock (90.35) from Lambeth.

Shortly after the loss of Brixton's Passion Radio (90.7), and Lambeth's R-t-R (90.35), paranoia was heard creeping up the backs of the just returned in low power, Brixton 7 dayer, Faze 1 (90.95). One DJ was heard nervously to remark that they were 'waiting for the police to come through the door'. He need not have worried, as the 'Reggaecide Squads' had all made it home in time to watch the Mandella Concert on tv. Faze 1 has been off since the last week of April, and surprised observers at the slowness of their return, and it was beginning to be thought that they were finished. With a 'powerhouse' strength signal blowing out of Brixton, they were believed to be well organised and to have a sound financial footing, but the slowness of the return and the low power, suggests otherwise. Unless, someone has taken the money and run. Much in the way that Faze 1 used to return in a matter of hours, Passion had a new transmitter in place, and up and running, with a carrier by the evening, and music re-starting on Sunday morning.

The Hits-FM saga continues:- This week it was the turn of 'Oldies' Hits FM (105.5), who took advantage of Brixton's Classic Radio (105.45) being off, to re-emerge from the bunker for a day of oldies, on Saturday. 'New' Hits FM (103.05) are presumed to have been the victim of a DTI Death Squad in the early part of the week, and did not appear at all until the early hours of Tuesday morning when they came through loud and clear on 98.3MHz., all over London, and well out into the Surrey/Sussex countryside. This slot puts them well inside the police emergency band. They can't last very long in that position.

East London weekenders Sunrise Radio (88.85) again lost the unequal struggle for band space against the steadily increasing strength of Saturday rock and rollers London Rock (88.7), which is beginning to sound like eavesdropping on a private party, with the amount of 'off mike chat' going on. Sunrise compensated by running on for an extra day into Monday evening. They have also been heard to be taking a leaf from SLR's (103.2) book, and running 'on the hour' news from IRN. Weekend pop-dancers, South London Radio, have adopted the annoying habit of on-air announcing themselves as 'SLR Radio' - or maybe they are the spearhead of Virgin's Radio-Radio empire.

South London techno-freaks CD-93 (93.25), or was it Starpoint? No ID's were heard, but the quality spoke for itself. Whatever, the timesharers rig was being tested on Friday night in preparation for CD-93's Saturday and Starpoint's Sunday, which both went off without a hitch. Meanwhile a couple of slots down, Solar 93 (93.0 - stereo) were taken away by the men in brown coats, presumably they didn't want to chance hearing Lee Randell's Doo-Wop show again. Fellow weekenders KISS-FM didn't even get beyond the test stage before they were also carried away.

Several unidentified carriers have been noted over the last few weeks, and this week, two of them burst into life. On 97.70, Joy Radio from SE London returned on Sunday. Returned may be too strong a term, as they were only heard testing on low power, on a couple of days at the back end of January 1987. Sunday's fare was the more popular end of funk and soul than usual, but it will probably change to the generally less well known dance-hall style. Back up to 105.15, where a carrier has been noted for the last two weeks, which finally sprang to life on Sunday evening, in test mode, with back to back music between the odd break in transmission, and probably from the Lambeth area. At the opposite end of the dial, the still unidentified north London Greeks who were sitting on 91.7 and making life uncomfortable for Peckham's Sky Radio (91.65) a week or two back, have now set up shop on 89.50, alongside NE London's 'The Arab' (89.7). They are taking advantage of the slot which has been empty since London Irish attempted to hold it, a month or two back.

While 'The Arab', 'The Greek' and GWR are looking for space around the 89.6 mark, there has been a certain jockeying for position taking place around the 96.9 mark over the

for all your broadcast requirements

WORLD-WIDE BROADCAST CORPORATION



44 Engineers at 11 Bases on 5 Continents

FULL CONSULTANCY SERVICE

MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

AUTOMATION SYSTEMS

STUDIO EQUIPMENT & FURNITURE

COMPUTERISED PROGRAMMING

LATEST PROCESSORS (with NRSC)

AM transmitters 4w to 100kW

FM Transmitters 10W to 30 kW

BCM AERIALS, L O N D O N , WC1N 3XX

Suite 207; 201 Old York Road; York Plaza; Jenkinstown PA 19046 USA

last few weeks, by Strong Island Radio (or SIR to their friends - 96.55), Soul FM (96.85) and 96.9 (yes, that is their name - 96.95). SIR and Soul have both been nomadically wandering the band looking for a home for some time. They, and newcomer 96.9 all appeared clustered around the 96.8 slot at more or less the same time. SIR very quickly dropped down to 96.55, where they have been happily ensconced ever since. Soul and 96.9 have yet to sort out who goes where. It would appear, that whoever gets on first, gets the plum 96.85 (actually 96.87), and the other is left with 96.95-97.05. This weekend, Soul beat 96.9 to the transmitter switch, and then spent the weekend massively increasing the power and reach of their signal, only to possibly lose the lot to the DoTI Men on Monday.

Not all the activity has been South of the Thames. Following hard on the heels of the refurbishment of the Time Radio (103.75 - stereo) studios, they've continued to improve the technical side and are now comparable with the powerhouse glories of last year, with a signal which is getting well out into the Home Counties. They are even confident enough to have installed an on-air phone line, which has been heard in use often over the last week, for live dedications.

Also heard, were:- N London Greeks - LGR (88.35) and GRL (96.15), South London Asian - Britannia Radio (95.4), North London weekenders - Studio FM (92.65), Sunday rock and rollers - Rock FM (94.25), North London 7 days RJR (90.0), City Radio (94.5), Fresh FM (103.35), JBC (104.3 - stereo) and WNK (102.9).

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. We left the story in the city last Wednesday (8th) with the mysterious Italian (?) on the air on 102.5MHz. As usual the carrier was there on Thursday morning, but by the evening, it had disappeared, and has not been heard since. It thus remains a mystery. Our correspondent was unable to check for N.B.C. on Friday and Saturday, but when listened for on Sunday, they were not heard.

BRISTOL. Yet again, B.A.D. Radio have remained silent, along with the brief, but very professional Emergency. Radio For The People (103.6) meanwhile, have continued

MARINE BROADCASTING NEWS

P.O. BOX 963, CLACTON-ON-SEA, ESSEX, CO15 6ED.

Dear Weekly Report Reader

MARINE BROADCASTING NEWS Issue No 3, THE JUNE EDITION IS AVAILABLE NOW, AIMED AT THE OFFSHORE RADIO ENTHUSIAST.

MARINE BROADCASTING NEWS HAS REGULAR FEATURES, INCLUDING:

THE OFFSHORE QUIZ and the CAROLINE LINE-UP CHART (which tells you who was on the air in the previous month, and when). ALSO IN ISSUE 3 THERE IS AN INTERESTING FEATURE ON THE FULL HISTORY OF THE OFFSHORE FORTS AND, AN ARTICLE ON THE HELP GIVEN TO OFFSHORE RADIO BY THE FRINTON AND WALTON LIFEBOATS, PLUS MANY OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST SPECIFICALLY FOR THE OFFSHORE ENTHUSIAST.

Our readership is growing daily so, if you would like to subscribe to MARINE BROADCASTING NEWS, the price per monthly issue posted first class to inland UK is £1.30. The price per monthly issue to all other EEC and non EEC countries is £1.70. You may subscribe for as many issues as you wish. Please can you now make cheques, postal orders etc. payable to MARINE BROADCASTING NEWS. If paying in cash please ensure that any coins you may send are secured to a piece of card etc.

THANKYOU

to successfully expell many technical problems from their equipment, and are blasting out quite well across the city. Following last week's promotion for a reggae night out in Gloucester, another professional advert in the same voice has been noted. [This is presumably done by the same guy as many of the other commercials heard on free radio stations around the country - Ed.] **Radio F.T.P.** are now not very far off their dream of a 24 hour / 7 day a week schedule, as on Saturday 11th, they appeared to go right through the night. This coupled with their lengthy daily schedule gives them a large number of hours broadcasting each week. Two presenters to note each week, who play a wide selection of pop and soul are Lady V (Tuesday 19:00 and Saturday 15:00), and M.D. Junior (10:00 Saturday).

MANCHESTER. The two 'black community/music' stations **WBLs** (102.4) and **Laser 10-35** (103.5 - 103.75) have both been monitored most days over the past couple of weeks. However Laser were noted with low power on Tuesday (14th) and not at all on Wednesday and Thursday. They were reported to be back on by the weekend however. It is not known if they were visited by the DTI, or whether faulty equipment was the reason for them being off air. WBLs, who are now on the air 19 hours per day, were off on Friday night due to a 'station night out', but left just the carrier on throughout. **Sunshine 92.1** were monitored on odd evenings on 94.2MHz. in stereo, just with a few tests. **FAB FM** (97.0) were on the air between 11:30 and 14:45 last Sunday afternoon. Finally **Outlook 96.3** were monitored on Sunday (12th) and Monday (13th) on 96.35MHz., with their regular religious schedule.

ESSEX. A new station came on the air last Sunday in Benfleet, calling itself **Benfleet Soul Radio**. They were operating on 90.5MHz., with around 70 watts of power, and had only been on the air for a short while when the local DTI inspector appeared near the premises. He was spotted quite early on however, and transmissions ceased before he could take any of the equipment. This is the same problem which was encountered by Canvey Radio North recently, and forced them off the air. It seems that this particular DTI official is obsessed with not having anything on the air in his area. He must certainly be tuning around the band continuously in order to discover that these stations are on the air.

ENGINEERS REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY

Two broadcast engineers with RF/studio experience for installation & maintenance. Must be able to travel to projects in Europe / near East. Salary £9k-£14k (according to experience) plus expenses. Fullest cv with passport details to Worldwide Broadcast Corporation, BCM Aerials, LONDON, WC1X 3NN.

MERSEYSIDE. Radio Merseywaves were active last Monday, as normal, although still with a terrible hum, caused by an unknown operator of a transmitter, also on 1242kHz., albeit, a little off channel! Even following RMW's close-down early on Tuesday morning, the hum continued, as the latter left the carrier on for the remainder of the week. Radio Atlantis were on air as normal on Monday. Friday was the next day for us, when any activity was noted, and again, the above two were logged. Saturday brought more of the same, with Dave Collins noted on air on RMW with his slightly 'zany' show and lots of classic oldies. In the meantime, Rick Dane, sole owner and operator of Radio Atlantis was noted on 1197kHz. On Sunday, these two were joined by Storeton Community Radio on 1026kHz. with excellent audio for most of the morning, although a little later it became distorted. Further checks over lunchtime yielded the station off the air altogether, but it did return after a short break, and the strong carrier silenced the 'opposition' from the various users of this frequency. Normal programmes re-commenced and the station is active as we go to print, early Sunday afternoon. Continued lack of an FM aerial has resulted in us receiving no stations on that mode from the area, although we understand Radio Julie may be active on 104.85MHz. and Radio Veronica will no doubt appear later in the afternoon. A caller from Finland convinced us that he had heard Radio Julie last Monday evening, on about 104.8/9, during a spell of rather excellent conditions. He also noted BBC Radio Lancashire, on 104.5MHz.

Storeton Community Radio currently have two addresses in use. Do not put the station name on either of these, but simply write to the deejay in question. One address is : 26 Harcourt Avenue, Wallasey, Wirral, Merseyside L44 6LJ. The second is : 91 New Hey Road, Woodchurch, Wirral, Merseyside L49 7NE. S.C.R. are the strongest signal in our area to emanate from Merseyside, although their channel is not the best due to Downtown Radio in Belfast. Finally this week, Liverpool Pirate Radio continue to operate each Sunday on a frequency around 1413kHz., always announced as 214m. The programmes are normally hosted by Phil Davis, and the address is as always : 30 Elkstone Road, Norris Green, Liverpool L11 2TD. We are unable to receive the station due to low power.

THE MIDLANDS. A little out of this area in Nottingham, the community station **HEATWAVE 105** appear to have been having a few problems this week, and were noted drifting about on Friday, occasionally down on top of Radio Derby. They had cured everything by Saturday morning however, and were back on 105.1MHz. Bill Mitchell ID's have been heard, possibly for the first time this week. In Birmingham itself, **P.C.R.L.** (103.5), **ENTERPRISE FM** (91.9), **POWERHOUSE RADIO** (105.0) and **MIDLAND ASIAN COMMUNITY RADIO** (106.0) have all been noted as normal this week. **FRESH FM** (95.05) have been heard during the weekend, and **ELECTRO RADIO** have been operating as promised during the evenings on 107MHz. **ASIAN COMMUNITY RADIO** were heard occasionally on 105.7 with programmes in the evenings. Finally this week **U.K. RADIO** (1413kHz) were heard with old tapes on this frequency. Across in Shropshire, the tests from **SUNSHINE RADIO** have been heard on occasions during Sunday afternoons on 1017kHz.

YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE & DERBYSHIRE. Nothing out of the ordinary has occurred in Leeds this week, with all three regulars on the air, **MUSIC CITY RADIO** (90.3 - Friday, Saturday and Sunday), **PEOPLES FM** (91.8 - most evenings and weekends) and **ABC FM** (105.2 - 24 hours per day).

In South Yorkshire **VILLAGE RADIO** were active on 105.2MHz. on Friday evening (17th) and signed off at midnight, promising to return on Sunday night. **REBEL RADIO** (105.4) operated on Monday evening with a usual 20:00-22:00 schedule. A test was made the following night between 20:30 and 21:00, using a new aerial, with a resulting signal increase at our correspondent's location.

Finally in Hull, **RADIO TAKORADI** were on the air yesterday on 105.0MHz. They were weak at first, but then the signal went up. Programmes were heard during the afternoon, but the tapes were running late. Problems later caused them to cut off on occasions. They left the air at around 20:00.

RENFREWSHIRE. **RADIO MERCURY** (96.1) were heard as normal, and **CVR** were noted with programmes on Sunday to Thursday evenings, 7pm-10:30pm. There was no sign of **MMR**, who are to fill in the times that **CVR** (103.8) are not on the air.

OFFSHORE STATIONS...RADIO CAROLINE. We left the station off the air last Sunday, having had a few generator problems, resulting in the record decks becoming uncomfortable to listen to. The sign-off was announced at 12:19, and the station returned later in the afternoon at approximately 13:47. World Mission Radio was also off air from about mid-day until this time. Tuesday also saw the station leaving the air abruptly during the morning, and returning with test tones prior to a full restart. The two new voices heard at the end of last week have now settled in, and were joined by another new member called Paul Pornon (Pawnon?, we are not sure of the spelling here). Paul was heard with the announcemnets during 'North Sea Gold', on Monday (13th). From Tuesday, he was also presenting a one hour show between 19:00 and 20:00, prior to the oldies show. Although 24 hour operation was announced on Monday, the station went off the air at 01:00 that evening. From Tuesday (14th) onwards however, Caroline has gone around the clock, and has had a steady weekday schedule of... 05:00 Keith Francis... 09:00 Rob Harrison... 13:00 Dave Asher... 16:00 Ian Mac with 'Powerdrive'... 19:00 Paul Pornon... 20:00 'North Sea Gold'... 21:00 Neil Gates... 01:00 John Bibby. There was just one break in transmission noted this week, and was between around mid-day and 13:18 on Tuesday. On returning, Dave Asher mentioned that there had been a power failure. Saturday saw a few changes in the programme times. Steve Conway was on at 05:00, but finished at 08:00 when Keith Francis came on and went through until 11:00 when dave Asher sat in. Next came Ian Mac at 14:00. This is certainly a change from the usual 09:00 morning changeovers.

Steve Conway was replaced on the news on Saturday morning by someone called Mike Dundee. Nothin futher is known about this latest recruit, apart from the fact that he has an Australian / New Zealand accent.

There were no tests again this week from the proposed 819kHz. Dutch service. Word from Holland reaches us mentioning that the tests should begin again within a couple of weeks. However the maximum power which appears to be possible from the fibreglass mast is 4kW. Whether this will give good enough penetration into Holland, is doubtful. It appears that if either a high level of modulation, or more than this power is put through the mast, then it begins to burn out, which is what happened recently. We believe that this system is not meant for broadcast transmissions where a constant carrier with a high level of modulation is required. It will probably handle powers up to 50kW from such as a 'radio beacon', where only short bursts of energy are radiated.

It appears that the station is no longer giving out the New York mailing address, as it has not been heard for about a month. It would be inadvisable to send any further mail to this address, unless we hear anything different.

"STAR WARS ON LOCAL RADIO" : Exclusive by Paul Rusling.

Radio listeners without a satellite dish, will soon be able to hear not one, but two 'Stations of the Stars', and once again Chris Carey has taken the lead. I can exclusively reveal that from the last day in June, at least six of the U.K.'s ILR stations will begin carrying the **Nova Night Network** as a sustaining service. Among them will be Marcher Sound, one of the country's smallest stations, in Wrexham, Clwyd (1260kHz/95.4MHz)

The start date is significant, as the following day is the first day on the air for Richard Branson's rival operation, which is not pitched at cable / TVRO operators. The Radio Radio network is charging stations for its programmes and is aimed at the ILR network. The service launches at 10pm on July 1st, with Jonathan Ross and Ruby Wax hosting the first hour.

RICHARD BRANSON

All programmes will feature a high proportion of album tracks as well as classic oldies. Richard Branson told me why they would be ignoring the Top 40 chart: "At the moment there isn't a single radio station in this country that serves those of us brought up in the sixties and seventies. That's our main target, and we've got the best team of DJ's who can really relate to them. These are very exciting times to be in radio, and I'm glad for a chance to be part of all this."

WALKER ON THE WIRELESS

Highlight of the evening for many, will be the return to night-time radio of Johnnie Walker, who is "tremendously excited about the project."

I asked Johnnie to explain why he was leaving Radio One again, at a time when he was clearly the best DJ on the station, and once again presenting daytime shows. "They offered me a chance here, to play the music I wanted, and said that they wanted the old type of Johnnie Walker back on the radio - the sixties Johnnie Walker if you like, and that is the period I enjoyed best. This is gonna be real radio, with real people and real music; it will really take radio in the U.K. by storm, I'm sure of that."

FRINTON FLASHERS?

"I really prefer night-time radio too, it will be just like the old Radio Caroline, and I'm even reviving the old 'Kiss in the Car' licenses and combining that with a sort of 'Frinton Flashing', but this time its much more up to date. Instead of parking on a cliff top and using morse code and headlights, we'll have all the reps., in cars down Lovers Lanes everywhere, calling in on their cell-phones, and I'll put them on the air live. I've got real freedom here, I've never felt so free since I did on Caroline in 1967. I've never felt so good about a station," he grinned as he topped up my glass from a huge bottle of champagne.

THE WAVE

Phil Ward-Large, head of music at Luxembourg has been hired to shape the new service's schedule, as has former ILR & Luxembourg DJ Rob Jones who is station manager.

Top Radio One producer Chris Vezey will be responsible for the 'Whispering' Bob Harris programme. That will be called 'The Wave', consisting largely of 70's music and will air weekdays from 1 thru' 3am, when former Viking Radio sex agony aunt Diana Luke takes over.

Mother of four, Diana is going to incite calls from people in the bath and in bed and explains : "Night-time radio is

the most intimat media there is, I can really relate to people on a one to one basis then."

The other mother in the line-up is Janice Long and from September she's reviving her Radio One magazine programme from 7 to 10 on the station's taking 'Radio Radio'.

ADVERTISING

One of the most important people in the Radio Radio line-up is a man who is probably the most respected in the business - Terry Bate. As the mainstay of BMS (the radio rep house) he is selling the new service to advertisers, on the basis that 'Magazines cost £25 per thousand, whereas Radio Radio rates are a tenth of that'. The rate card demands a client books spots in pairs, one in the first half of the night, and one after 3am, with prices from £200 to £840 for 30 seconds, and one minute spots charged at triple rate. Terry was really excited about the project, and we recalled that infectious enthusiasm when he worked (all too briefly) at Caroline House in The Hague in 1973. "I really welcome this opportunity to re-make old acquaintances, particularly with Johnnie Walker, who I worked with at Caroline House back in '66 and '67. You know, Radio Caroline is responsible for all of us being here now, without it, Britain would still be stuck with the Light Programme, and you'd never have had ILR, nor this exciting new venture."

SHORT WAVE STATIONS....Today's log.....Sunday 19th June '88.

6200kHz.....FLYING DUTCHMAN RADIO, at 09:11gmt.
6205kHz.....F.R.S. HOLLAND, at 07:48gmt.
6215kHz.....WORLD MISSION RADIO, at 06:15gmt.
6230kHz.....RADIO EAST COAST COMM., at 10:10gmt.
6233kHz.....UNID., at 11:14gmt.
6238kHz.....PREMIER RADIO INT., at 10:27gmt.
6242kHz.....UNID., at 10:20gmt.
6256kHz.....R.T.R. RADIO, at 09:16gmt.
6260kHz.....F.R.S. HOLLAND, at 08:25gmt.
6266kHz.....FREESOUND RADIO, at 12:09gmt.
6276kHz.....UNID., at 08:15gmt.
6280kHz.....RADIO PANDORA INT., at 07:95gmt.
6280kHz.....WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 10:18gmt.
6285kHz.....RADIO 48, at 09:09gmt.
6300kHz.....RAINBOW RADIO GERMANY, at 08:36gmt.
6300kHz.....RADIO ORION, at 11:13gmt.
6305kHz.....BRITAIN RADIO INT., at 08:53gmt.
6310kHz.....RADIO MARABU, at 08:00gmt.
6310kHz.....'CRUISIN' SOLID GOLD', at 10:14gmt.
6315kHz.....RADIOC.L.C.G., at 11:28gmt.
6318kHz.....GUERNSEY SOUND, at 10:17gmt.
6318kHz.....RAINBOW RADIO INT., at 11:01gmt.
6318kHz.....'CRUISIN' SOLID GOLD', at 12:10gmt.
6320kHz.....UNID., at 10:03gmt.
6331kHz.....UNID., at 09:13gmt.
6511kHz.....E.M.R., at 11:37gmt.
6815kHz.....RADIO EAST COAST COMM., at 11:20gmt.
6910kHz.....RADIO DUBLIN, at 08:08gmt.
7316kHz.....UNID., at 09:05gmt.
7375kHz.....RADIO LUCE, at 07:03gmt.
7375kHz.....RADIO WAVES INT., at 09:53gmt.
7385kHz.....W.F.R.L., at 09:11gmt.
7446kHz.....RADIO SCORPIO, at 12:30gmt.

Conditions on the band today were not terribly good, despite quite a considerable log. Thanks to all who contributed by telephoning us with their results. They came from the Midlands, Devon, Hull and Duiburg in West Germany (Radiotelex). There are no bold type ones due to the computer problems we have got, but most stations were logged here in Blackpool, the exceptions being 6256, 6266, 6276, 6285, 6305, 6315, 6331, 6511, 7316 and 7385kHz.

The transmissions on 6200kHz. would not have fooled us, even if there had been no identification. There is no mistaking the voice of the operator in this case. Welcome back to the air-waves, we trust your 'modulations' will continue good this time! Premier Radio were announcing 6240 and giving out their Ballyfermot, Dublin address. Rainbow Radio Germany were relayed by Radio Orion. Britain Radio's signal was not particularly good, we were told (we did not even notice it!). Radio Marabu, on the other hand, was particularly strong. All transmissions on 6318kHz were via Rainbow Radio Int. Severe interference once again plagued RECC's programmes on 6815kHz., although the source is not known. Radio Southsea were noted on the same channel yesterday, via the facilities of Radio Pamela. W.F.R.L. were not noted at all here.

Once again, apologies for an inferior edition this week, thanks as usual to all contributors. We hope its back to normal soon!

The WEEKLY

REPORT

ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 217.....26th June 1988. P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

Well, its good to be back to normal after a disastrous seven days in which we struggled to keep the show on the road, so to speak. The problem was a failed word processor and it is not until you are without it that you miss it. Apologies for missing items and severely edited reports in last week's hopeless issue.

Its all good news this week, we are pleased to say, and, after several weeks with virtually no receiving aerals, we are once again back in business and monitoring like mad, so stand by for more detailed station reports in the coming weeks.

The next good news will be found within this week's envelope and it is the brochure and order forms for "Communicate '88", the north's first free radio convention. If you still have not received one, or know of someone who wants one, then please let us know.

The best news is left until last..... After months (years!) of delay, we now have in stock... "The Laser 558 Story" L.P. See relevant section for all details

WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday afternoon from Blackpool. The 20p news-sheet is available on subscription at the following weekly rates... 1st Class (inc. EEC and Eire), 40p... 2nd Class (U.K. only), 35p... Non-EEC European, 45p... Elsewhere, by air mail, 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish at the above appropriate rate.

ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT for just £20.00 for a full page (£11 for 1/2 and £6 for 1/4). To advertise in our mega-mail-out to non-subscribing members (about 1000), which will definitely be next week, £50.00 will get you a full page (£25.00 for a half page). Just send us your artwork, black on white paper, plus the remittance. If a dot matrix printer is used for your original, please ensure that your ribbon is not faded, as we cannot ensure good quality from a weak copy. Anyone wishing us to include their own printed material, rather than us print it, should contact us without delay for prices in this case.

THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO-LINE will keep you up-dated with latest happenings on the free radio scene. Ring Sheerness (0795) 511118 now and hear a three minute message. News for us is best written in, but calls can be made on Blackpool (0253) 882017 or left on our Ansa-phone, on Sheerness (0795) 511119.

"COMMUNICATE '88", the north's first free radio convention, takes place on Saturday 24th September 1988 in Blackpool. Booking forms and other details should be found within this week's envelope. Non-subscribers who are interested in attending this event should send an s.a.e. to our address.

NEW MERCHANDISE. At long last, from East Anglian Productions, comes **"THE LASER 558 STORY"** narrated by **Charlie Wolf**. This latest L.P. is hot and will be in demand by radio enthusiasts and ordinary listeners alike, who remember this great, if rather short-lived, station. The double L.P. comes in a gate-fold sleeve with glossy colour front and rear cover. The inside covers feature a collage of black and white photos featuring shots of the ship, station and staff from the start until the very end, along with a description of each picture. The record content is up to the usual EAP standard, as we expected. This is not a music L.P., it is a documentary and re-calls the happenings on the station from the first beginnings. The price is £10.00 plus £1.00 for postage and packing, making a total of £11.00. Order yours today and be one of the first to own this fine product. Please note that we now take Visa as well as Access.

NEW ARRIVALS. Radiotelex, Issue 127, the latest from West Germany. This 4 x A5 page news-sheet, totally in English, is devoted entirely to logs and news of pirate short wave stations. The fact that we have a new editor with this issue is irrelevant, as the magazine has undergone such editorial changes before, with no apparent changes to its high quality content. We wish the new team well, offer them our continued assistance and remind readers that the new address is RT, c/o Duempter Strasse 6, D - 4100 Duisburg, West Germany..... In all the mayhem of the past week, we have managed to mislay the latest issue of **Now Radio**, Issue 62. It did arrive on time, however, and contained all the latest across the board radio news. Details from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... **Play-DX**, Issue 511, the weekly read from Italy has 6 x A4 sides of long distance logs and news from these quarters. This issue contains some re-produced items from the German 'International Listening Guide'. Mostly in English this time, details can be obtained from Dario Monferini, via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy..... **Freewave Magazine**, Issue 163 arrives from Holland and contains news in Dutch, from Europe generally in its 24 x A5 pages and includes satellite and offshore also. Details here from Hans Knot, Postbus 102, 9700 AC Groningen, Holland..... Finally this week, from West Germany, **C.L.C.G. Magazine**, Issue 132, a thick wad of A4 sheets of news and logs from pirate SW, European FM and offshore stations and more. Details from CLCG,

Postfach 54 01 01, D - 4100 Duisburg 11, West Germany.

TAPE OFFERS. Again due to machine failure and a backlog of tapes, we have only one tape to offer this week, and, by popular demand, one from California... Tape 213 features station **KYA FM** and a 'Solid Gold Weekend' format of oldies from the sixties. There are plenty of jingles and promotions on this recording of a Chris Edwards programme (not the same one of 'Offshore Echo's fame!'), which serves San Francisco on 93.3MHz. The tape is 90 minutes in duration and costs just £2, including postage and packing.

WANTED. Main drive belt for Philips EL 3541 reel to reel machine... contact Ken Lancaster, 121 Upper Wortley Road, Dropping Well, Rotherham, South Yorks. S61 2AE.

WANTED. Has anyone got the address of 'Adrian's Records' please. They used to have a massive list of rare items, but apart from the name, I have no further details, although know the shop was somewhere in England.... Frank Tobin, Ballinamona House, Courtmacsherry, Co. Cork, Eire, or P.O. Box 539, etc.

WANTED. Free accomodation for the French operator of Radio Waves Int. for the duration of the forthcoming "Communicate '88" convention. Anywhere will do, as long as I can get a lift back there at the end of the day... contact Peter Hills, c/o P.O. Box 539, etc.

RADIO STATION NEWS...IRELAND.

Co. DUBLIN. Problems with the 819kHz. transmitter at **Super Q 102 FM** are still occurring and the station was absent from that channel on occasions during the week, yet again. A report from the Dublin area tells us that the transmissions on 99.9MHz. were also missing for a couple of days last week but one and that the power on the 103.0MHz. transmitter has been reduced considerably. Promos for the Sony Sunday special programme 'The Bop Shop' have been considerable and lead us to believe that the show has attracted a huge audience already. Al Dunne was noted on Monday in place of the recently left Gareth O'Callaghan, but further logging was not possible due problems at this end. Further reports will be forthcoming, however. Over at **Sunshine 101 FM**, brief periods of monitoring yielded a promo which stated 'the end is in sight!' We thought this seemed a little premature.

New Zealander, Pat Courteney, late of Energy and Sunshine radios, has surfaced at **KLAS 98 FM** in the city. Although

not having actually been heard airing shows live, Pat's voice has been noted on numerous adverts and promos.

At **Treble T.R. Radio**, the 891kHz. transmissions are still absent for unknown reasons. Apparently the transmitter was situated in Navan and put out 3 kw., with the 936 situated in Dublin, with 1 kw. The FM transmitters are sited on the mountains behind the city and emit 1 kw ERP on 99.1 and 18 kw ERP on 99.5MHz.

Co. CAVAN. With Q-102 not being on 819kHz., for a substantial period last week but one, we have been able to listen to **Cavan Community Radio**. This station is one of the few remaining which has kept to a medium wave service only, although FM tests were carried out a long time ago. Their signal gets out very well considering that Cavan is a long way inland, and they were heard well into the evening without any foreign interference. C.C.R. was pleasant to listen to and they certainly seemed to have a healthy advertising log. The return of Q on Wednesday temporarily put paid to any more detailed comments.

Co. MONAGHAN. Its action stations in this county again, as we get our FM rig tuned in that direction. **Kiss FM** first off and a quick check yielded the usual massive signal on 103.7MHz. The same weekday line-up was noted, but with a new addition on news and promos, none other than ex Caroline jockess, Susan Charles, who appears to have joined in the last week or so. Susan was noted on news duty in the afternoon. The station encountered some medium wave interference problems on Wednesday, when the authorities asked them to switch off the 1008kHz. transmitter, as they were causing interference in the Newtownards district. The station duly complied and remained on FM only until a new channel could be sorted out. The FM transmissions were missing when we checked on Saturday night, which made us think that the engineers were working at the site, in preparation to move the AM to a new channel. The FM was back on this morning (Sunday), but no trace of MW transmissions could be found. Several possibilities are open to them, but it would appear that 1170kHz. could be a favourite to watch, but how this will travel into the U.K. is unsure, as so many ILR's occupy that channel. We were quite surprised by the number of callers from all over the U.K., who asked why Kiss were missing on 1008kHz. We are looking forward to hearing the oldies show later today, as we have been unable to tune in for some weeks. Syndicated American shows from Gary Owens and Scott Shannon can still be heard each Saturday and Sunday, in addition to the weekend presenters.

Still in the area, **Northern Star Radio** appear to be having some problems with a location and non stop music tapes only can be heard on the 1116kHz. transmitter. We understand that ex Caroline man, Ian Akers has left, and his departure may well have some bearing on recent events. **Radio Star Country** continues on 927kHz., with their diet of mostly country and Irish music, as do **Hometown Radio** on 981kHz., **Big 'M'** on 846 and 954kHz. and **KITS FM** on 100.9MHz. and 837kHz.

Co. WATERFORD. **ABC Radio** installed satellite receiving equipment last week but one and have begun to relay Radio Nova International's 'Night Network'. This is understood to have been a cost saving exercise. The station recently expanded out into the Wexford area, where they now have a relay on medium wave on 1116kHz. The power of this transmitter is around 200 watts, and the audio is fully processed. An FM is expected to be on the air at the end of this week. Future plans include another medium wave outlet to cover the area up towards Arklow. ABC currently have their own competition for the Summer, under way and it is called 'The ABC Wopping Great Giveaway!' The 50th caller after hearing three specific records wins £2000 worth of Panasonic equipment.

Co. CORK. Word from the south tells us that **ERI** are still closing at 03:00 daily, until 07:00. Their current line-up reads.... 07:00 Steve O'Neill 12:00 George Talbot 17:00 Mark Edwards 22:00 Mark Lawrence, weekdays. On Saturdays.... 07:00 Pat O'Regan 12:00 ERI Jets Countdown with Steve O'Neill 17:00 Derry O'Callaghan 22:00 Mark Lawrence. On Sundays.... 07:00 ERI Jazz with Joe Cotter 10:00 Oldies and Irish with Joe O'Reilly 14:00 Sunset Country with George Talbot 17:00 Derry O'Callaghan 20:00 Mark Edwards 00:00 Close-down.

News readers are Joe O'Reilly and Katie Johnston. A further person is required on the station in order to do commercials and voice-over work. Details can be obtained

by ringing (021) 397814.

The Blues Promotion is still running and the main prize now for spotting seven consecutive songs with blue in the title is 2 VIP tickets to see Michael Jackson in Cork, in July. Also, coming soon on ERI, 'Mastermind 100', a chance to win £100 daily by answering three questions correctly.

South Coast Radio have moved location once again, and this time to studios outside the city centre, in Vicars Road, Togher, above the Pyramid Snooker Club. Their telephone number is now (021) 311248. Their current line-up reads... 07:00 Fergal Barry 11:00 Romano 13:00 Rob Allen 18:00 Pamela Brown or Bill Davis 22:00 Romano's Phone-in show 03:30 non stop music tapes. Just one weekend presenter is heard, Paul Norman who does a Saturday lunchtime show. A limited news service has been re-introduced during the breakfast show.

In Bandon, little to report from **WKLR**, whose line-up remains... 07:00 Tim Coughlan 10:00 John Green 14:00 Paul Sheehan 18:00 (till 07:00) non stop music tapes. Saturday... 10:00 Brian McCoy 14:00 Roxy John. Sunday... 10:00 Irish Show with Tim Coughlan 14:00 Country Show with Gerry Black. All other times, non stop music tapes.

SATELLITE BROADCASTING...RADIO NOVA INT.S.L.

Listening early on Sunday evening last week but one, we noted mentions for **Coast Hot Hits** and Keith York in Galway. Apparently this is the first of many stations who will relay Nova, as far as we know. ABC Radio in Waterford are possibly the second such station and according to a press release received a couple of days ago, Marcher Sound in North Wales are to become the first independent radio station in Britain to broadcast a satellite night-time service. The company has signed an agreement to transmit programmes from The Nova Night Network from Friday next, 30th June, on both its AM and FM frequencies, giving even more people chance to hear the station. The new programming will be broadcast from 23:00 to 05:00 Mondays to Fridays and 12 midnight to 06:00 on Saturdays and Sundays. Within the next few weeks, the Nova Night Network will announce the signing of further stations and it is hoped that by October, a total of 15 independent stations will take the service which is beamed via satellite from studios in Camberley, Surrey. Further mentions were made of new cable listeners in Ealing and Greenwich, also.

The station was listened to extensively last Sunday and Monday but one, and following Mark Wesley, Sunday lunchtime, was Tony Blackburn with 'The European Top Forty Show'. Tony, who always sounds very professional, was having a bad day however which just goes to show that even 'superstars' are fallible. We found the music a bit wishy washy, but that, of course, was not his fault, as he was playing the charts. 'The Switch', a specialist teenage hour-long programme followed Tony and then it was the turn of Pete Simester, the former Radio Boulogne Littoral presenter who went through till 22:00 when Irishman, Liam Quigley took over until the early hours and 'Max Nova', the semi-automated slot. Tony Gillam seemed to have settled nicely into the breakfast show and his style suited this early slot splendidly, although he has since not been heard at all. Tony used to work in Denmark in the early '70's, then got on the United Biscuit Network. His most recent position we recall, was as Tom Hardy's predecessor at Chiltern. He was noted from 07:00 until 10:00 each weekday, when Paul Burnett appeared. The zany Timmy Mallett does an hour following this show, as does Tony Blackburn, then its American, Greg Edwards, Liam Quigley and at 23:00, another hour long show from David Hamilton. Robb Eden was noted with a show on Friday last, as part of the Nova Night Network. All shows mentioned above are regularly taped here and the quality is very good now we are perfecting the operation. All in stereo of course. The price is £2.00 each for a C.90 original recording, or a block of five covering the best part of the day, for £9.00. Please request the D.J. of your choice (if possible) or an alternative, or 'a recent recording'. We weren't exactly surprised when we noted a promo for 'The £10,000 Giveaway' on Tuesday. This latest is directed at Nova Night Network listeners and is run the same as previous Nova (Dublin) giveaways, with three records being played in a row. They are 'King of Rock n'Roll' by Pre-Fab Sprout, 'Another Weekend' by Five Star and 'Loads of Money' by Harry Enfield. When those three tunes are played in that exact order, sometime between now and October, the fiftieth caller collects the money. Some changes in presentation are expected as the NNN takes off this week.

VERONICA F M

ELECTRONIC SUPPLIERS TO THE
BROADCASTING INDUSTRY
TELEPHONE: BRADFORD (0274) 816200

10 WATT VHF TX£ 60.00
50 WATT VHF TX£130.00
10 WATT CRYSTAL P.L.L. VHF TX.....	£150.00
STEREO ENCODER£ 80.00
AUDIO PROCESSOR / LEVEL CONTROL.....	£ 60.00
5/8 GROUND PLANE AERIAL 3dB.....	£ 40.00
HIGH GAIN TWIN YAGI (DIRECTIONAL).....	£ 75.00
P.S.U. FOR 50 WATT TX (10 AMP).....	£ 55.00

VERONICA F.M. (YORKS.),
HEIGHTS BUNGALOW,
HEIGHTS,
KILPIN HILL,
HECKMONDWIKE,
WEST YORKSHIRE,
WF16 ODE.

TEL. (0274) 816200

N.B. A LICENSE MAY BE REQUIRED TO OPERATE
THIS EQUIPMENT.

LAND-BASED STATIONS.

LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

17th - 20th June 1988.

This weekend touched down on 34 stations, 6 in stereo. Missing / not heard :- LWR, TKO, Soul FM, Groove FM and CD-93.

The 'Waterloo Wreckers' were not wreaking revenge on the same scale as the previous week, but the damaging high pressure did. Identification was complicated again by the weather, which meant that soul music heard on 97.0 and 102.40 was, at first thought to be 96.9 and TKO. It didn't take long to establish that neither was a privateer, but the Shilton tx of ILR Birmingham / Coventry regional, Mercia Sound on 97 and East Anglia's Radio Broadland on 102.4. Although TKO didn't show at all over the weekend, 96.9 was heard with test tapes laste on Sunday. The conditions had modified somewhat by Sunday evening, and virtually all stations were interference free.

Interference from an unknown source caused problems for the returned Solar 93 (93.00 - stereo - previously known as Lee Randell 93!), and Starpoint (93.25 stereo) on Sunday morning, over a wide area of South London. Whatever, or whoever was responsible for it, had switched off by the evening, leaving both channels free and clear. CD 93 didn't make their Saturday date, leaving it to time-sharers Starpoint to keep the flag flying. Also returned were fellow weekenders KISS FM (93.95 - stereo) for a full weekend.

Raiders Pop-FM made it back on air on Sunday for the first time since mid-March, when they were on 105.25, which has since been claimed by PCR. They have had a chequered past as long weekenders, as they have wandered nomadically across the band looking for somewhere to settle. They turned up this week on 105.85, with the mix as before, of a fairly wide range of pop and rock. With the time spent in getting back, it is surprising they did not spend more time in getting the tx right, as it could be heard loud and clear on 106.95 and 108.0 as well.

Well organised weekenders SLR (103.20 FM and 1138kHz AM) were back warming up the tx just after 7:30pm Friday, in preparation for the 8pm IRN bulletin. The AM tx has still not been heard, probably as it is intended for SE London only, but the FM tx covers most of South London. Music policy is fairly diverse, ranging from pop and rock from the live daytime shows, and the overnight tape and CD between midnight and 8pm.

Saturday evening amateur rockers London Rock (88.7) tested the rig for a short time on Friday evening with Pink Floyd's 'Dark Side Of The Moon', which became almost a standard reference disc for testing stereos in the seventies. It's a shame LR were not in stereo for it. They held another of their private parties on Saturday, where good natured insults were traded back and forth between the jock on air. A lot of the banter was missed as it was coming from well off the mike. Rock FM (94.25) on the other hand were in a more serious mood for their Sunday outing, but were in fine (heavy) metal bashing mood.

Top Forty specialists 'New' Hits FM (98.3) were back with a new tape in the early hours of Saturday morning. The non-stop formula of the current 'top forty', broken up with short, bright and breezy 'teaser' ads, between every other track, has given it highly listenable style all of its own. The choice of 98.3 may not be quite as suicidal as previously thought, as 'The Mets' have already started clearing this part of the band in preparation for opening up BBC national Radio 1.

On Saturday's 'Oldies' Hits FM (105.5) were pretty well smothered by powerful returned Brixton soulsters Classic Radio (105.55). Classic have now added the 'community' tag to their name, which I guess makes them CCR. They had some company this weekend, as their transmitter open, and the pips could be clearly heard with the music. Just down a couple of notches from them on 105.25 are North Surrey weekend daytime soulsters P.C.R. who are still only in mono, and only managed to make the scene for Sunday.

Peckham's Sky Radio (91.65) ran a lengthy diatribe of 'community news' and ads. It was unfortunate that, what was a potentially useful slot, was made unlistenable by going on for too long, and being read in halting and stumbling manner. In the midst of it, they carried an ad from a controversial Lambeth Council backed adoption agency, which was looking to place black babies and toddlers for adoption or fostering to black couples only. The 'reggae-side squad' got them the following morning, only for them

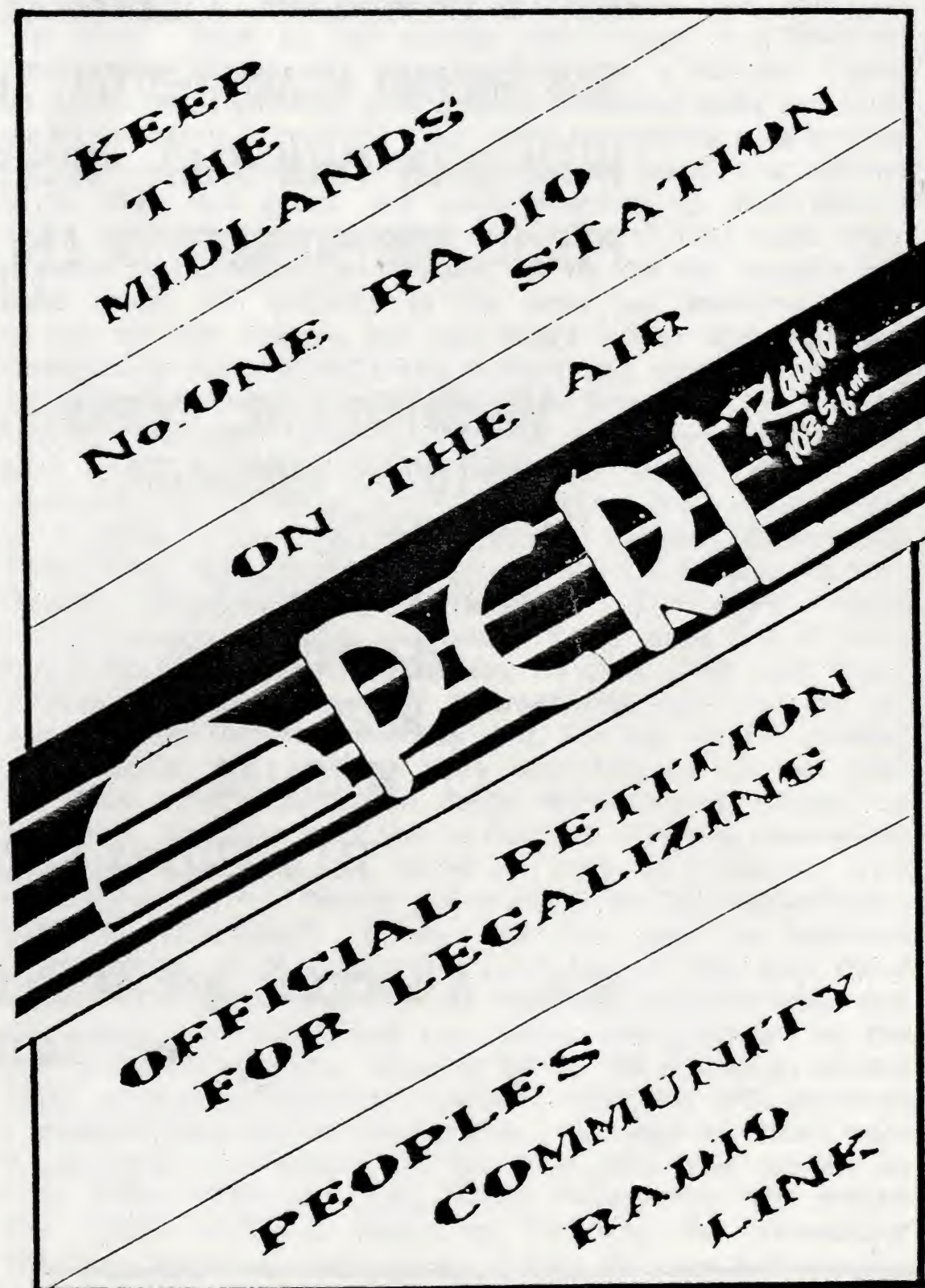
to return again in the early hours of Monday morning with a new tx, up slightly to 91.75. For a short time they were even testing in stereo. Rock-to-Rock (90.35) also joined the missing list on Saturday, but they too were back again Sunday with a slight move to 90.2. Also returning after being missing last weekend due to a lost tx, were Croydon's deep southers Fame FM (94.6) who managed a full weekend. Just over the otherside of Crystal Palace's Norwood Hill, and newcomers Joy Radio (97.8) also made it back for the weekend daytimes.

Several times in the last month or two, an unidentified funk and soul outfit have been clocked on 89.5'ish in the shadow of 'The Arab'. It is back with a stronger signal and overnight tapes, but despite prolonged listening remains unidentified.

Also heard were :- Asians Sina Radio International (90.75 - NW London) and Britannia (95.40 - South London). North London Greeks LGR (88.35), GRL (96.15), and GCR (104.45). North London 7 dayers RJR (90.00), City Radio (94.45), Traffic Jam Radio (98.00), WNK (102.90), Super Fresh (103.35), Time Radio (103.85 - stereo) and JBC (104.30 - stereo). South London 7 dayers Passion Radio (90.70) and Faze 1 (90.95). East London weekenders Sunrise Radio (88.85) and North London weekenders SIR (96.55).

BRISTOL. Once again Radio For The People (103.6) have broadcast alone during the period 13th to 19th June. Monday 13th, saw Radio F.T.P. open at the now regular 13:00, and programme throughout the day, until around midnight. A new programme featuring African music was aired on this day. The station was not heard at all on Tuesday 14th, and when it did return the following day, was on very low power. Signal strength was up and down throughout the remaining broadcasts that week. The frequency altered slightly at the weekend to 103.7MHz., but the signal remained up and down in strength. Adverts are still being aired, although one of the concerts recently advertised was announced as being cancelled due to 'immigration laws'. Bristol City Council were heard with a promotion on Sunday morning, for a 'black awards' ceremony.

THE MIDLANDS. Radio P.C.R.L. (103.55) currently have petition sheets available (see re-print below), to try and get the station legalised. Let us hope that in these days of the expanding radio scene, they fare better than former London 'pirate' Radio Jackie, who did a similar thing about



10 years ago, collecting tens of thousands of signatures - their efforts were to no avail, and the usual false promises were given by the authorities. P.C.R.L.'s signal has been up and down this week, and indeed, it was even mentioned over the air, than reception in many parts of the city was poor: The problem appeared to be that the transmitter was drifting about, and this resulted in the tx having to be switched off several times in order to cure the problem. The other 24 hour station in the city **Enterprise FM** (91.9) continued with their problems this week, and were often noted off the air. Their sister station **Solar Rock** (90.9), has not been heard for several weeks now.

Electro Radio (107.0) has been heard every night since Saturday 18th June, when tests were noted. The opening and closing theme for this evening only operation, is 'Theme from Hawaii Five O', and the following address has been read out :- **Electro FM**, c/o 75 Ashcroft Close, Newbury Lane, Oldbury, Warley, West Midlands B69 1HA.

A mystery appeared on 18th June, with transmissions appearing around 105MHz., between **Powerhouse 105** and **BBC Radio Derby**. They were heard from 15:30 until 16:30, with a loop tape consisting of about 30 seconds of blank carrier, and then the announcement 'DDC Radio on VHF Number 7'. Reception in the Handsworth area of Birmingham was very weak. They were noted again the following night, at 20:00, this time playing records, and with announcements at a very low level, saying that they were the latest unlicensed station in the West Midlands area. **Powerhouse Radio** (105.2) themselves are currently operating a schedule from 16:00 each afternoon, until 06:00 the following morning.

Two Asian stations continue to be heard most evenings. These are **Asian Community Radio** (105.7) and **Midland Asian Community Radio** (106.0), the former having the longest broadcasting hours.

Weekend operation **Fresh FM 95** (95.0), were heard as normal last Saturday, Sunday and into early Monday morning. A jingle recently heard on Fresh says "You won't hear this on Radio 1".

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. **N.B.C.** was noted back on the air last weekend, with a much improved signal strength, in the west of the city. They were first received at 17:30 on Friday (17th) with a diet of reggae music. Their signal tends to suffer from a little distortion, suggesting the studio output is too high. This could have possibly been a test, as at 17:45, the music stopped and didn't return until 20:00, although the carrier remained on. There were several long breaks between programmes, and references were made to the fact that the schedule had been thrown into confusion, as one of the presenters hadn't turned up. The comments suggested that programming was 'live'. Unusually for N.B.C., the carrier was still on all during Saturday, with odd periods of modulation. Perhaps some tests were being carried out at this point. Saturday's (18th) programmes were also erratic, as the previous evening's were. For the second week running, there have been no programmes heard from N.B.C. on a Sunday evening.

Monday night (20th) saw a mystery station again on in the city on 102.3MHz., with an extremely strong signal. Alternative type music was played, but there were no announcements. The signal carried on into the following morning, but had disappeared by Tuesday evening. It re-appeared late on Wednesday night at 23:45 playing Marvin Gay's Greatest Hits. Anyone any ideas?

YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE & DERBYSHIRE. Starting in Keighley this week, with some up to date information on **NLV Radio**. Following their sudden departure from the airwaves during the last bank holiday week, due to transmitter problems, they subsequently returned on Monday, 6th June with full programming. The following morning, Mad Murdoch was heard with his first show since the raid, and was heard talking about the event. At 11:55, just before the start of his 'Mad Hour', he announced that they 'would have to go off due to circumstances beyond our control'. They remained silent for another day, but were again on 104.9MHz., that Thursday (9th), but this time in mono. They had been on the air every weekday since then until 17th June, with a schedule of... 08:00 Stevie B... 10:00 Mad Murdoch... 13:00 Lynne... 15:00 Young Paul or Carl. Between 18:00 and closedown at 20:00, several specialist programmes are aired, including an Asian show, non-stop top 20, and a rock show. Some new jingles have been aired, but as yet, no adverts have been noted. Also the ammount of 'community news' heard is much less than previously, although the station

may well just be getting things back together after the raid in March. At the time writing (24th) they appear to have disappeared again, and have not been monitored with their regular weekday schedule.

Down in Leeds, a distorted signal has been heard in the 104.5MHz. area, playing reggae music. This is possibly a new spot on the dial for **Peoples FM** who were having a few reception problems on their old channel of 91.8, which was sandwiched between **BBC Radio 3** transmitters. So far however, the signal has not been identified positively.

W.L.N.G. made two transmitter tests on 104.95MHz. this week, on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The signal in Leeds appeared to be better than their previous broadcasts. These are their first tests from this station since they lost their studio location several weeks ago. The station was asking for reception reports at the usual address of Media Promotions, P.O. Box 32, Scunthorpe.

In South Yorkshire, **Rebel Radio** (105.4) has improved its reception area quite a lot since the installation of a new aerial system two weeks ago. The regular Monday evening programmes between 20:00 and 22:00 went out as normal this past week, with Scooter Jones hosting them. Ronald in Chesterfield, informs us that a letter he sent recently to the station (using the address printed in 'WR'), was returned labelled 'incomplete address'. Has anyone else had this problem? Scooter was asking for reception reports this week, so it will be interesting to see if any actually reach him. Two unidentified signals were heard last Saturday (18th). Firstly on 104.95, what appeared to be a continuous loop tape was being played throughout the evening, with no announcements. On 105.7MHz., non-stop music was played. It is possible that this was a test from a proposed station called **Vulcan Radio**, although no positive ID's were given on either of the transmissions.

In Hull, a court case is set for 19th July, involving illegal transmissions from **Radio Takoradi**. The latter station was heard yesterday, Saturday, but announced at 14:19 that they were signing off for a few hours. They were noted later at around 17:30, but a further check at 18:20 yielded an empty channel. The signal was reported as weak.

Heatwave Community Radio (105.1) from Nottingham are still heard as far north as Yorkshire, with daily, 24 hour transmissions and plenty of advertising on its books.

MERSEYSIDE. Lots happening in this area over the past few days. Back to last Sunday first though, and **Storeton Community Radio** who were putting out a colossal signal on 102.6kHz. Following a few audio problems early on, their quality became excellent. They were announcing programmes through until midnight, however when we tuned in at around 21:45 they had gone. We were listening up until around 21:00 and everything appeared to be fine at that time. They possibly had transmitter trouble, as we did not receive any calls about DTI activity in the area last weekend. Also on the air last Sunday, but just heard locally were **Eastham Community Radio** (105.2) and a short test transmission from a new station called **Starpoint Radio** on 105.4MHz. (announcing 105.3). Starpoint were asking for reception reports and gave out a telephone number for this purpose. Power was mentioned as 15 watts, and it was stated they would either be on again in the week, or this Sunday. **Eastham Community Radio** were also heard on Monday evening, announcing that regular Saturday and Wednesday transmissions would commence starting this weekend. **Radio Julie** (104.8) were heard all weekend, until Tuesday morning. The only other station heard was **Slag Off International** who were on for short periods on both Monday and Tuesday on 105.25MHz. Last Monday, all stations were operating as normal, with the 'hum' still apparent on **Radio Merseywaves'** channel of 124.2kHz. We have still yet to find out who was responsible for this. A carrier was noted all week on 124.2kHz., with we understand, Burt having put on one of his 'big' transmitters, probably 'Chernobyl'. Friday saw the start of weekend programming on Merseywaves, as it has for the past three weeks. The audio was a little distorted unfortunately, but the power was there, and also, which was good for us, the hum was not apparent. Disaster struck the station at around 12:45 on Friday lunchtime however, when the DTI launched a massive raid against the station. Although we didn't hear it ourselves, we understand that the story was carried on both **Radio City** and **BBC Radio Merseyside**, who stated that £2000 worth of equipment including the transmitter had been taken, as well as one deejay who was 'helping' the DTI with their enquiries. **Radio Atlantis** (1197) who had

signed on at 10:00 on Friday, and announced programmes through until 18:00, were also understood to have gone off early, although Rick Dane was back on the air Saturday morning as usual, so he might have just switched off to be safe.

We finally got our big FM aerial back on the roof (although our rather unintelligent neighbours appeared to be having a 'site' meeting on the pavement outside about its appearance so how long it will remain there is anyone's guess!) As a result, we listened to **Radio Julie** (104.8) on Saturday afternoon, for the first time in weeks. Programming was believed to have started in the early afternoon, as when checked in the morning, we couldn't hear anything. Mentions were made about the DTI, and a dedication was played to the deejays on **Rado Merseywaves**, so this could have been the reason for the late start. Signal strength was quite good here. They are currently announcing an address of... 59 Fair Leaf Way, Ford Estate, Birkenhead, Wirral, Merseyside. The station was heard today also, and announcing a line-up of shows for Monday. Signal was again good, although occasionally suffering audio overload on loud passages.

Sunday was a little disappointing here, as following the sign on of **Radio Atlantis** (1197) and Rick Dane's regular shows on medium wave, no other stations were monitored on medium wave. Not surprisingly, **Radio Merseywaves** failed to appear. However **Storeton Community Radio** were not on the air either, leaving us with just **Radio Atlantis** and **Radio Julie** to listen to. At 15:00 we were hoping to hear **Veronica 104** with our re-built FM aerial system. Unfortunately they did not appear either. Whether this was due to high levels of DTI activity, following the **Merseywaves** raid on Friday, is not known.

MANCHESTER. Both seven day stations appeared regularly this week, these being **WBSL** (102.4) and **Laser 10/35** (103.5). The music content of **Laser** is apparently diversifying quite a lot, with many pop and sixties tracks splitting up the regular diet of soul and reggae. Other activity was quite low, with just **F.A.B.** being reported heard on Sunday (18th), Wednesday (21st) and Thursday (22nd). This station operates to the Stockport area on 97.0MHz. **Outlook 96.3** (96.3) continues to operate with its religious tapes, and was noted last Sunday evening with a strong signal, and improved audio quality.

SHROPSHIRE. **WR Shropshire** (105.5) were on the air from 12:00 until approximately 15:00 today, with their regular 'end of the month' broadcast to the Telford area. Following the success of the T'Pau exclusive concert broadcast recently, the station started a two part **Heart** concert in today's transmissions. A little further south in the Worcester area, **WR Worcester** (103.75) have been operating most Sunday afternoon's recently, and were expected on air today also. **Sunshine Radio** (1017) continue with occasional weekend 'propagation tests' on the medium wave band only, these being to the Ludlow area.

RENFREWSHIRE. Just two stations- have been heard in the Glasgow area this past week. The ever regular **Radio Mercury** (96.1) has now settled into its new schedule, and was heard Friday and Saturday evenings between 18:00 and 21:00, as well as last Sunday afternoon between 14:00 and 17:00. **Clyde Valley Radio** (103.8) are also becoming regulars on the band following their formation several weeks ago, with transmissions heard on Sunday to Thursday evenings, between 19:00 and 22:30. Fellow station **M.M.R.** has not been heard this week.

OFFSHORE STATIONS...RADIO CAROLINE. This week brought a few changes around in programming. The 'North Sea Gold' show between 20:00 and 21:00, which in just two weeks on the air had proved immensely popular, has now been dropped. The 'Cuddle Up To Caroline' late show between 21:00 and 01:00 also appears to have finished. The only 'titled' programme to continue seems to be 'Powerdrive'. The schedule on Monday and Tuesday read... 05:00 Keith Francis... 09:00 Rob Harrison... 13:00 Dave Asher... 16:00 Ian Mac (inc. 'Powerdrive')... 19:00 Paul Pornon... 21:00 Neil Gates. The station ran a 24 hour schedule on Tuesday, with John Bibby hosting the 01:00 to 05:00 slot. Wednesday saw a reduction in staff numbers with the departure of Steve Conway and Keith Francis on shore leave. The change started with Paul Pornon at 01:00 in place of John Bibby, and then an alteration in the programme times to 05:00 Rob Harrison... 10:00 Dave Asher... 15:00 Ian Mac (inc. 'Powerdrive')... 20:00 Neil Gates... 01:00 Paul Pornon. Also, we assume that the newsreader called Mike Dundee, who was heard briefly

last weekend, has also come off the Ross, as he was last reported heard reading the 13:00 news on Sunday (19th). Whilst Steve Conway was off, the news was read by Dave Asher (breakfast), Ian Mac (13:00) and Rob Harrison (afternoon). Several sarcastic remarks regarding the shortage of staff were heard during the latter half of the week and we wonder whether it was this that brought Steve Conway back to the station after only three days 'holiday'. Steve returned to the air on Saturday morning, saying that he had just been off briefly to get some new records to play, and to have a haircut! The shows now appear to have gone back to 4 hours in length. A bit of a funny occurred last week, just showing that a lot of people still do not know that Caroline is on the air. Apparently last Sunday some visitors passing close to the ship recently (presumably on a yacht), asked what the ship was doing there. The staff of the Ross replied that they broadcast. The visitors replied, "Do you broadcast every day!"

On 819kHz, we hear that a temporary aerial was lashed up and tested rather un-successfully last Wednesday and Thursday (15th and 16th June), with the signal not radiating very far. It is not known whether actual test programming went out on this system. The array apparently used the 'remains' of the fibreglass mast, and at the top, the 'wires' were extended, and connected to the top of the rear 558 tower. What the engineers do next is unknown. Just for the record, we have a translation of several of the announcements made during the Dutch language tests of the end of May.... "You are listening to a test transmission on 819kHz from the radioship the Ross Revenge. Except for this programme, which will be repeated during the following weeks, most programmes will be broadcast live from the radioship. We have chosen the live programme format because we know from reactions that you like these programmes so much. So inform us now about your musical preferences and write to us : that is 819, Box 146, Playa de Aro, Gerona, Spain" "It is our endeavor to reach as many Dutch and Flemish speaking people as possible, and to try and interest this group in a musical product that will give some profoundness to the so-called Benelux idea in a pleasant and positive way. Radio from the North Sea without government interference is, in our opinion, the best way".

SHORT WAVE STATIONS....Today's log, Sunday 26th June.

6205kHz....UNID., at 11:25gmt.
6215kHz....WORLD MISSION RADIO, at 07:45gmt.
6238kHz....RIVERSIDE RADIO, at 10:02gmt.
6257kHz....R.T.R. INT., at 10:38gmt.
6266kHz....FREESOUND RADIO, at 11:55gmt.
6280kHz....WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 10:32gmt.
6285kHz....RADIO APOLLO INT., at 09:54gmt.
6296kHz....RADIO KRISTEL, at 08:51gmt.
6300kHz....RADIO ORION, at 09:56gmt.
6305kHz....B.R.L., at 09:50gmt.
6310kHz....RADIO STELLA, at 08:06gmt.
6310kHz....F.M.T.R., AT 10:47gmt.
6318kHz....GUERNSEY SOUND, at 08:49gmt.
6318kHz....W.L.R., at 11:04gmt.
6318kHz....STAR INT/ F.M.T.R., at 12:04gmt.
6320kHz....RADIO LUCE, at 10:41gmt.
6815kHz....RADIO PAMELA, at 11:21gmt.
6910kHz....RADIO DUBLIN, at 07:32gmt.
7315kHz....RADIO SUESAN, at 09:18gmt.
7375kHz....RADIO LUCE, at 07:45gmt.
7385kHz....UNID., at 11:13gmt.
7397kHz....UNID., at 09:59gmt.
7446kHz....GUERNSEY SOUND, at 09:07gmt.

Conditions today were not particularly good and all the signals we received (in BOLD type) were rather weak. Thanks to loggers in Hull, the Midlands, Hampshire and Sussex.

B.R.I. were celebrating their eighth birthday today. Also celebrating their first birthday were Star International, and they had shows on 6318kHz., via the Radio Rainbow International relay service, along with the medium wave outlet on 1521kHz., which was heard in the north west of England and east coast of Ireland. The AM cut off at 15:10, but due to poor conditions we don't know if the shortwave outlet went on any longer.

Our usual thanks to all contributors for this week's news, etc. We must continue to apologise for news held over, or even not used. As we have said before, it is causing us some concern and a remedy is still being sought.